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OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE NORTHWEST FRUIT GROWERS' ASSOCIATION

VOLUME THREE

NUMBER ONE

ONE DOLLAR A YEAR

# BETTER FRUIT

*July 1908*



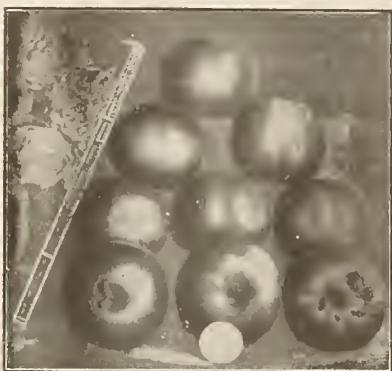
A PRIZE PEACH GROWN BY R. H. WEBER, NEAR THE DALLES, OREGON

PUBLISHED BY

BETTER FRUIT PUBLISHING COMPANY

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HOOD RIVER, OREGON

# BETTER FRUIT

A MONTHLY ILLUSTRATED MAGAZINE PUBLISHED IN THE INTEREST  
OF UP-TO-DATE AND PROGRESSIVE FRUIT GROWING AND MARKETING

## GREAT FRUIT PROSPECTS OF THE DALLES, OREGON

BY W. H. WALTON

THE wonderful productivity of the soil and the variety of the products of the Oregon country are an old story to the resident of its confines. So old that he no longer regards it as worth the telling, and in many instances it goes untold. It is to the stranger then, who beholds it for the first time, that it appeals in all its marvelous and bounteous variety.

Probably no section in Oregon more fully demonstrates to the eye and mind the truth of this statement than the vast section of rich soil contiguous to The Dalles, Oregon. One of the oldest settled sections in the state, its broad acres will produce almost any fruit, vegetable or grain that can be grown in the temperate zone, and many that have heretofore been considered indigenous to the semi-tropical. Almonds, apricots, grapes of the delicate varieties, cherries, peaches, pears, apples, watermelons, cantaloupes, all grow there to a perfection and profusion that is transforming that section into a garden of beauty and profit alike. Long the home of the grain raiser and the sheep and cattle man, the fertile valleys of this section are giving way to the peach, cherry, apple and grape. To the eye of the stranger who alights at The Dalles, its prospects as a fruit country are deceiving, and the awakening comes a few miles from town. Lying at the foot of high bluffs, vegetation nowhere appears flourishing from the city. In front is the Columbia, winding its way through the broad valley and framed, as in a picture, by a long line of high and bare hills. The scene is one that does not however lack for beauty, for it is magnificent in its breadth of scope, while afar up the river from most any rise can be seen the falls, or, in the language of the French, who were of the first settlers in this favored spot, Le Dalles, from which the town takes its name.

Substantial business blocks, sound financial institutions and well paved streets characterize this thriving city of five thousand prosperous and enterprising residents. The county seat of Wasco, one of the oldest, richest and biggest of Oregon's many rich counties, its educational institutions are of the best and its social and religious life abreast of the times. Many of its residents have grown wealthy from the returns of succeeding years of prosperous cultivation of its soil area, and have not spared their money in erecting beautiful homes. It is to the latter that the present large orchard development owes itself, although this territory undoubtedly offers some of the greatest opportunities to the investor or prospective fruit raiser of limited means to be found in the Northwest. A ride of but two or three miles in almost any direction from The Dalles will force this conclusion on the observant and unobservant alike. Topping the hills back of town, the visitor is soon brought into

view of many acres of peach, cherry, prune and apple trees, as far as the eye can reach. To the right and left are orchards whose fresh green foliage is waving in the breeze. Properly pruned and cultivated they tell a story that is more eloquent than words. Unirrigated, the growth and abundant fruit set is wonderful, and the early age at which the trees begin to bear seems almost incredible.

Passing into a large nursery and orchard, one of 112 acres, owned by R. H. Weber, we find cherry, pear and

known. Sent to not only the Coast markets but to many of the large cities of the East, they have commanded fabulous prices. When one considers that land ready to be set to trees can be purchased in the vicinity of these flourishing orchards for \$50 to \$60 per acre, and that thousands of acres of it are in sight, it is not difficult to foretell the enormous development of the fruit industry that must follow in but a few years. Not slow to grasp this fact, fruit men from other districts are purchasing and planting these tracts. Many of the enterprising citizens of The Dalles are also seizing the opportunity and setting out large orchards. These can be seen on every hand and are being put into a state of cultivation second to none in the Northwest. While orchard development in the Three Mile Valley district at present shows the greater number of acres and would permit of greater development in a shorter period than other sections near The Dalles, the vast area of available fruit land reaching in every direction, improved and unimproved, should lead the way for thousands of home seekers and small investors to prosperity and plenty. It is estimated that 300,000 acres of fruit land encircle The Dalles. This is situated on gently sloping hills and plateaus and in rich valley bottoms. Where clearing is necessary the sparse timber makes the expense slight. From \$15 to \$50 is estimated as the cost of this clearing and is permitting the rapid transformation that is taking place there. A sight that impresses this on the mind is a cherry orchard, two hundred acres in extent, owned by M. Z. Dönnell, C. Williams, E. M. Williams, W. C. Blakely, O. Krier and C. L. Phillips. Three years ago wooded and unproductive, it is today in two-year-old trees that in a year or two will be producing a revenue and in another year a handsome income.

As an object lesson to both orchardist and observer, the peach and cherry orchard of George Cooper, sixty acres in extent, is a model. Uniform in size and shape and loaded with fruit, the trees in this orchard add eloquent testimony to that of the many others there as to the productiveness of the soil and adaptability of climate to the propagation of these fine fruits.

Letting the eye roam over this broad expanse of rich and fertile country comprising the Three Mile Valley, with its kaleidoscopic coloring of waving fields of grain, green orchards and patches of brown, rich soil upturned, the scene is one that conveys a prophecy of prosperity and content to the crowded districts of the East. That twenty acres here in fruit will provide an income without half the laborious toil of the big farm and provide a more interesting and pleasant occupation in a climate where winter's rigors and summer's heat are absent, is a message of this country

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apple trees loaded with fruit. A five-year-old cherry tree, we are told, last year yielded \$15 worth of fruit, and its limbs, bending under the weight of its this year's undeveloped crop, promise much more. Almonds on trees but two years old can be seen, and more marvelous still, peaches on trees but one year from the bud. A solid block of thirty-five acres of two-year-old cherry trees next greets the eye, vigorous and healthy. Acres of Hungarian and Italian prune, peach, plum, apricot, pear and apple trees are also in this orchard, all bending beneath their weight of half-grown fruit and promising riches to their owner. The soil, which is a rich sandy loam, is mulched to a dust. Nowhere is a green thing visible not intended to be there, and all growing, flourishing and prospering without water.

In this section as one drives along for several miles are acres and acres of trees but newly set out, some in bearing and many that will bear in a short time. So far, peaches and cherries have been set more extensively than other fruits, as they have been found to mature earlier and bear heavily and afford an income a few years after planting. The superior quality of the cherries and peaches shipped from The Dalles has long been

that is yet but half told. It must be seen to be appreciated. Moderately prosperous the wheat and hay farmers of this district as elsewhere are slow to perceive it. It is for their sons, the alert business man and the stranger who has traveled, to recognize its possibilities and profit thereby.

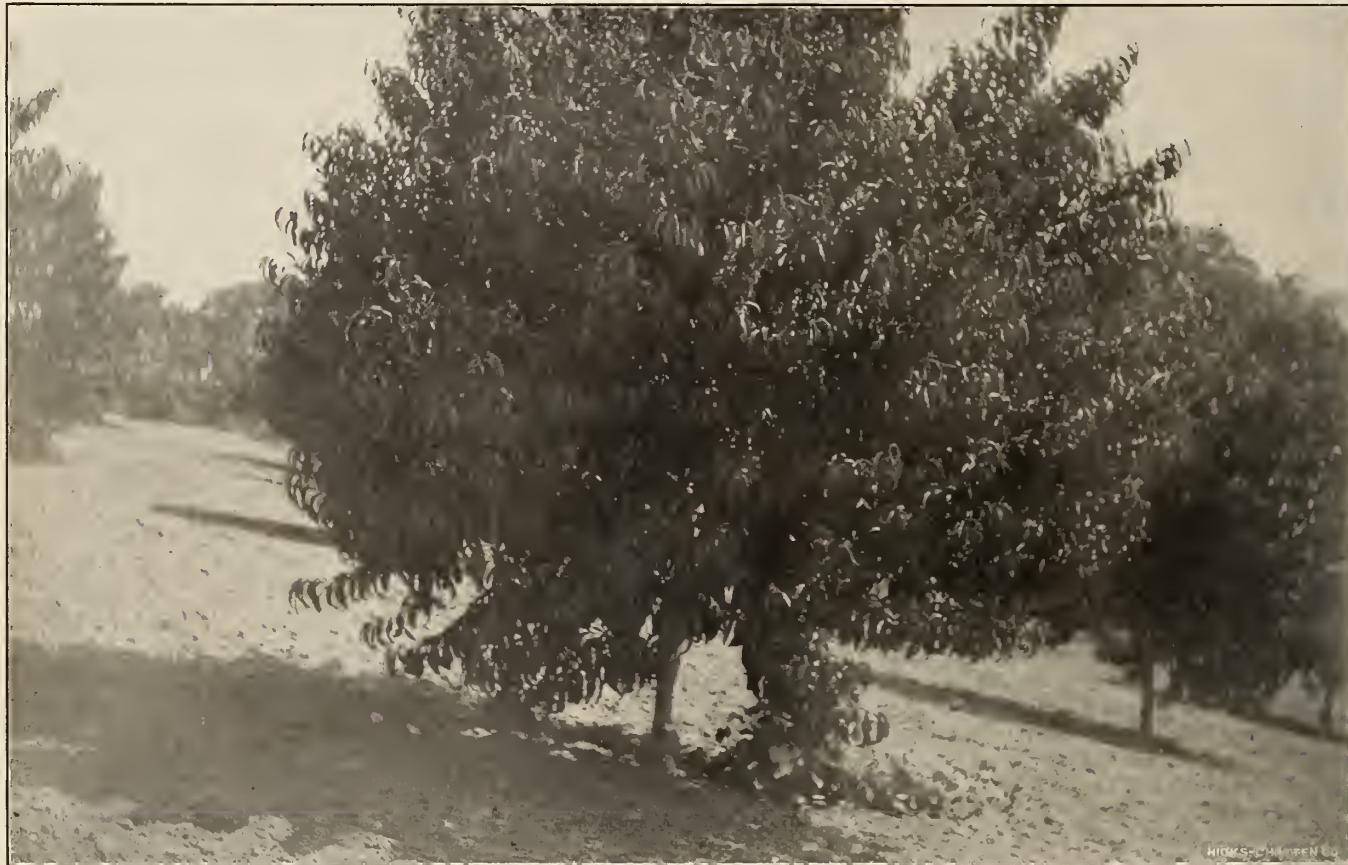
It is not, however, only in the productiveness of its tree fruits that The Dalles country excels. In the Mill Creek region, on hillsides, bottom lands and flats, in addition to orchards are to be found immense vineyards and truck farms. From these tons of grapes and

able pride. Adjoining the Webb place is an eighty-acre vineyard, owned by Adam Fleck, an industrious German, who a few years ago acquired the land for a song, and who is now producing tons of the finest grapes each year, from which he receives a big income.

Nearing the railroad we find still another fine tract of fruit land, known as Chenoweth Cove, and largely owned by Mr. J. C. Hostetler. It is as level as a barn floor, and a fine apple orchard owned by Mr. Hostetler shows that its soil is admirably adapted to raising that fruit as well as tomatoes and other

most promising of all the undeveloped sections of Oregon, and one of the greatest in resources. For this reason a short history of its past achievements, value of products shipped, and transportation facilities, taken from a report issued by the authorities of Wasco County, will prove interesting to the reader:

"The Dalles is situated on the Columbia River, eighty-eight miles east of Portland by rail, on the line of the Oregon Railroad & Navigation Company, and one hundred and ten miles by the river. It is the head of navigation on this great artery of commerce, and, while boats



HICKS PHOTO ENCL

THREE-YEAR-OLD PEACH TREE GROWN IN NURSERY AND ORCHARD OF R. H. WEBER, NEAR THE DALLES, OREGON, WITHOUT IRRIGATION

tomatoes are annually marketed. For fifteen miles along this fertile valley can be seen fruit farms dotting the country, while thousands of acres of unimproved land can still be had for a small sum per acre. One of the notable fruit farms in this district is that of G. Webb, who owns five hundred acres and has a large acreage under cultivation. Situated on a high bench of level and sloping land, it commands a fine view of the surrounding country. In fact, one of the attractions of The Dalles district is its varied outlook from almost any point. Under cultivation and producing luxuriantly on Mr. Webb's ranch, are grapes, cherries, peaches, apples and cantaloupes. The latter, which grow to perfection in many places, are considered the finest produced on the Coast, and are among the earliest melons to reach the market, in consequence bringing very high prices. The earliest fruits and vegetables shipped to the big cities on the Coast are grown at The Dalles, a fact that residents there point to with consider-

truck farming. When it is stated that \$855 worth of tomatoes have been raised on half an acre in the Chenoweth district in one season, some idea of the productivity of the soil will be gained.

While all fruits and vegetables produce wonderfully in this still but partly developed district, the peach and cherry are taking the lead. Particularly the latter, which are being planted in large blocks. A new district opened up and called Cherry Park, east of the city, had planted in it this spring ten thousand peach and ten thousand cherry trees, and there are many other sections in which were planted thousands more.

Others who are engaged in the orchard business at The Dalles and making a success are Dr. G. E. Sanders, C. Craten, Lake & Bolton, E. L. Curtis, R. P. Kries, E. Surfae, Julius Meyer and F. O. Bruce, who last year from less than five acres of Spitzemberg apple trees was paid \$2,300 for his crop. The varied fruit crop and diversified farming of this district makes it one of the richest and

have been engaged in traffic on the Upper Columbia, the rapids at The Dalles and Celilo Falls make the river impassible for steamboats or other craft until the canal and locks projected by the government are completed. For this reason the city was the distributing point for the interior after gold was discovered in Boise Basin (Idaho), Blackfoot region (Montana) and Canyon City and Malheur in Eastern Oregon, until the Northern Pacific constructed its line of road from St. Paul over the Cascades to Puget Sound.

"The site was first occupied by the Methodists in the early history of the Northwest as a missionary station. Afterwards it was taken by the government for military purposes, and Fort Dalles was the post from which troops were sent to punish the murderous savages during the Cayuse and other wars. Its first occupancy in this respect was soon after the close of the Mexican war (we believe in 1850), when the First Rifle regiment was sent here. This was

before the garrison buildings were erected. The place continued as a military post until the gold excitement caused vast crowds of seekers after fortunes to visit the newly-discovered mines in the Northwest. Then the city was established, and continued to be the point from which merchandise and supplies were sent to the new mining camps. Long lines of freight wagons and numerous pack trains of mules and cayuses loaded their goods at the stores and journeyed hundreds of miles to the mines in Blackfoot, Boise Basin and farther Eastern Oregon. This was the

"Then came the agricultural epoch. It was found by experiment that the uplands were adapted to the growth of wheat and other cereals, as well as to the best orchard productions. Grain was grown, and The Dalles as the shipping point enjoyed great facilities for growth and development; but the through line to the East being completed in 1882, other towns in the interior became important trade centers and business was restricted to narrower limits.

"At the gateway of the Inland Empire, with an open river to seaboard (the locks at the Cascades were opened to

comparison with any town in the Northwest for the solid and substantial standing of its manufacturing enterprises, its banks and mercantile establishments. As an illustration of the public spirit of the citizens it is only necessary to mention that last year about \$25,000 were subscribed for a fruit cannery, for the right of way for the Great Southern from Five Mile into the city, and for other projects. And this public spirit has been manifested on other occasions, and notably so when the Dalles, Portland & Astoria Navigation Company was formed and the Regulator built. This



ANOTHER VIEW OF A THREE-YEAR-OLD PEACH ORCHARD AT THE DALLES, OREGON, WHICH HAS NEVER BEEN IRRIGATED

golden age of the town; large fortunes were made here and the trade of the Columbia River became the most important in the Northwest. Boats of the old Oregon Steam Navigation Company landed hundreds of gold seekers in the streets daily, and business of every line was lively. Money was plentiful and the city was thronged by crowds of people who seemed determined to acquire wealth by the easiest means, and some of whom spent it very lavishly. Another epoch dawned when the attention of the people was turned in a new direction of development. For many years the bottom lands on the streams had been cultivated and the produce had been sold to the gold seekers and returning miners at prices that today would seem almost fabulous. But this did not last always, and as immigrants settled on the lands 'a change came o'er the spirit of their dreams.' The bunch-grass hills afforded the best pasturage for cattle, and The Dalles became the shipping point of vast herds for the Eastern markets.

traffic in November, 1896), there is no reason that it should not continue in its long-established position as a commercial center of the Northwest. It has every natural advantage over competitors in the race for commercial supremacy. An open river means ocean competitive rates, and the vast water power of The Dalles and the Deschutes afford the cheapest motive power for machinery. Then, at the very threshold of the vast interior country, with its varied resources—the timber of the Cascades and the extensive pasturage for sheep—here is the logical location of factories for all kinds of wooden wares and woolen fabrics.

"The Dalles has enjoyed a solid and substantial growth, and there is no city that had a better record during the deplorable era of bank failures and financial depression that spread like a pall of gloom over the country than the one at the gateway of the Inland Empire. Wealth has been made here and spent elsewhere, and The Dalles challenges

city follows the motto of the state, and flies or soars with its own wings.

"The population of the city is about 5000, and there has been an increase of over 700 since the census of 1900 was taken. It has well graded streets, concrete sidewalks, brick business blocks, good and commodious hotels and the gravity water system, costing over \$150,000. The church edifices are models of beauty, and for design and finish would be ornamental and attractive in any city on the Coast. There are three brick public school houses, including the High School, a building which cost about \$30,000. Eighteen teachers are employed and there is an average attendance of 669 pupils. The High School has the complete four years' course and stands high as an educational institution. St. Mary's Academy (Catholic) is a commodious brick structure and for architectural completeness there is nothing superior in the Northwest. A splendid sewer system is in operation, and this insures a complete drainage of all waste.

Two telephone systems—the long-distance and the local—are used, and about eight hundred instruments employed. Free mail delivery is established in the city and a rural delivery route for those residing in the country. There is a capacious and elegantly furnished club room and literary societies. All the fraternal orders are represented, the Masons, Odd Fellows and Knights of Pythias owning their own halls, and other societies meeting in the various lodge rooms. As to transportation and travel, there are four daily trains east

White River Falls, twenty-seven miles distant, and this can be doubled with the present facilities. The grist mill of the company, located in this city, gives the following as its last year's business: Wheat purchased, 1,600,000 bushels; flour manufactured, 350,000 barrels, of a quality never excelled (a large quantity of this went to Japan and the Orient); mill feed, 12,000 tons; barley purchased and manufactured into feed, 12,000 tons; oats bought and sold, 1,000 tons. Pay roll, \$5,000 per month, about \$3,500 of which is paid in The Dalles. The elec-

pany, Z. F. Moody, Columbia Southern and Dalles, Portland & Astoria Navigation Company. It is a fair estimate that these (outside of the Wasco Warehouse Milling Company, the figures for which are given elsewhere) handled about 600,000 bushels of wheat.

"The Seufert Brothers' Cannery, three miles east, shipped 1,161,728 pounds of canned salmon last year and 4,000 cases of Royal Ann cherries, two dozen cans to the case and two and one-half pounds to the can. Its pay roll amounted to \$32,054 in 1904.



AN ILLUSTRATION SHOWING THE WONDERFUL VARIETY AND EXCELLENCE OF THE FRUIT AND VEGETABLE PRODUCTS OF THE DALLES, OREGON

and west, and three boat lines direct to and from the city. A steamboat ferry also connects with the Portland & Seattle Railroad across the Columbia. This road has just been completed and The Dalles is one of the few places on the south bank of the Columbia which will get the advantages of its great distributing facilities for its fruit and other products that are reached by the great Hill system of railroads.

"Manufacturing industries are well represented, and in this regard it can make a good showing in comparison with any town in the Northwest.

"The Wasco Warehouse Milling Company, E. O. McCoy, manager, is the foremost industry, and its capital stock is \$300,000. By means of electrical transmission it has brought two thousand horsepower into The Dalles from the

electric power for lighting the city is furnished by this company, and also the power for a large flour mill, several machine shops, printing office, blacksmith shops, etc. A sub-station at Dufur gives electric light to that town, and still the company has a surplus of over 600 horsepower which might be used for manufacturing purposes.

"The Diamond Roller Mills, James Snipes, manager, manufactures 15,000 barrels of flour annually and 750 tons of feed, and has a pay roll of several thousand dollars every year. It purchases 80,000 bushels of wheat from the farmers of this and neighboring counties. The flour is of extra quality and has a fine reputation all over the state.

"There are four warehouses engaged in buying and shipping produce. These are the Wasco Warehouse Milling Com-

"The Wool Scouring Mill has a very extensive plant and purchases a large quantity of wool during the season. It employs a large number of persons and its pay roll adds to the circulating medium in the city. It has a capacity of 20,000 pounds a day, and was awarded the gold medal for scoured wool at the Buffalo Exposition.

"The stockyards ship a large number of cattle, hogs and sheep, and is quite a factor in the industrial development of the city.

"There are two banks, one private and one national, and the amount of business transacted by these is truly phenomenal. Over the counters of one of these were handled coin and paper to the amount of \$23,000,000 in a single year.

"A packing company, in connection with the butcher business, sent into cir-

culation \$150,000 last year for the purchase of cattle, sheep and hogs. Other firms in this line do nearly as large annual transactions.

"The Eastern Oregon Brewing Company, with a capital stock of \$65,000, is a new incorporation, and has a capacity of 15,000 barrels a year. Improvements made on the old plant amount to \$35,000. It purchases 20,000 bushels of barley and 15,000 pounds of hops annually, and has a pay roll of \$800 a month.

"The Ice Plant is a new industry that has been started within the last two or three years, and this furnishes a good

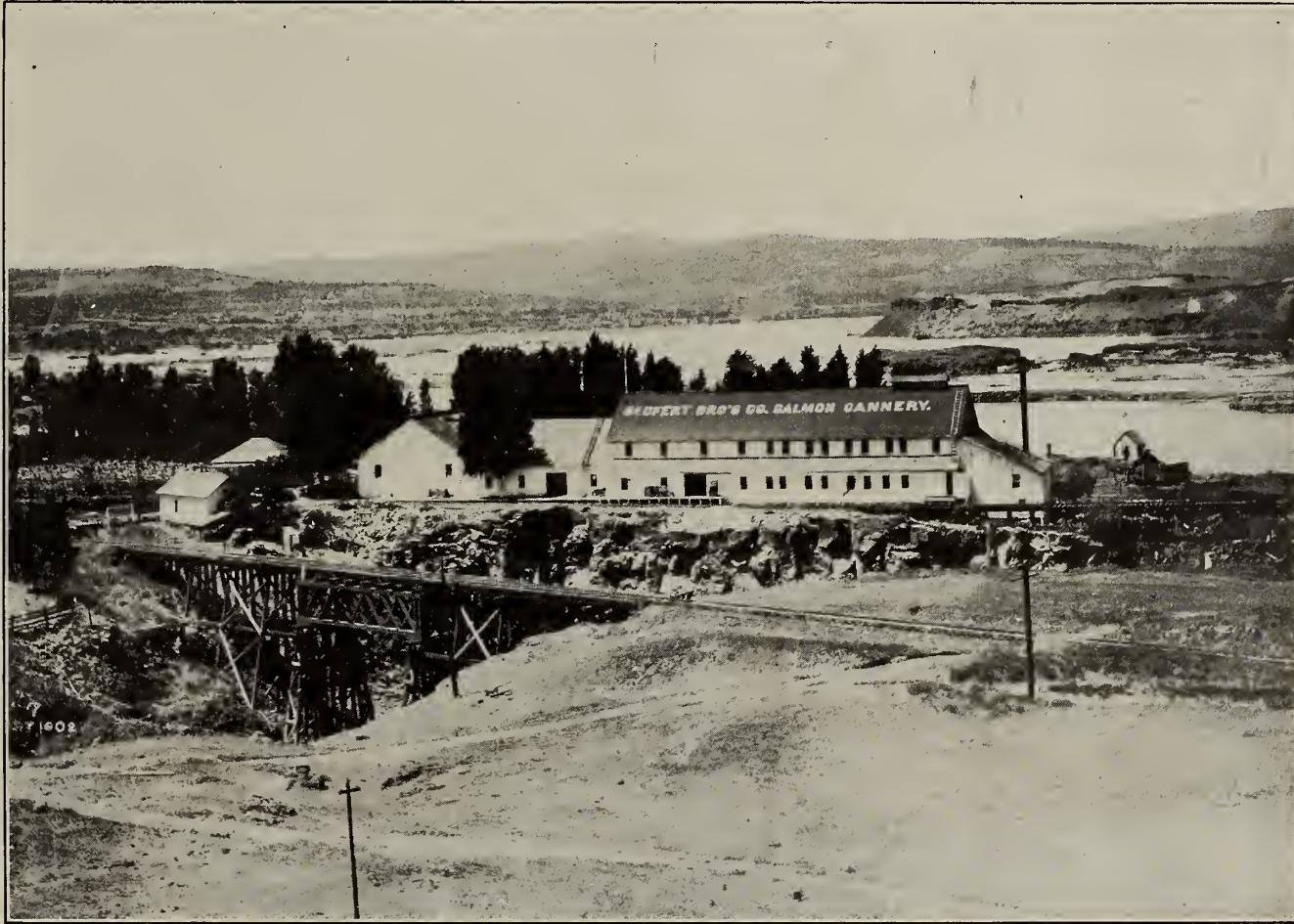
to the city and comprise Chenoweth, Mill, Three Mile, Five Mile and Eight Mile Creeks, and not over five per cent of the area suitable for fruit is cultivated. In the near future, when these lands are planted in orchards, The Dalles will be one of the best fruit producing portions of the Northwest.

"The possibilities of the city as a commercial and manufacturing center are large and we believe in time these will be fully realized. What the Wasco Warehouse Milling Company has done with White River Falls, twenty-seven miles from The Dalles, could be carried out

and invigorating. In fact, the semi-dry climate here is a particularly salubrious one."



**G**RAPES should be pruned before winter, for it has been well demonstrated that this operation is best performed in the fall. There is then generally more leisure to do this important work and the weather is more favorable than in the blustery, stormy, muddy March time, and in the spring the rise of sap in the canes waits on no man. A little delay and we find the canes bleeding and the favorable moment lost.



FRUIT AND SALMON CANNERY OF SEUFERT BROS. AT THE DALLES, OREGON. DURING THE SEASON THOUSANDS OF CANS OF CHERRIES ARE SHIPPED FROM THIS PLANT

supply for local consumption and for shipping purposes.

"The Steam Laundry has a pay roll of \$650 a month and its business is constantly increasing.

"Last year there were shipped from The Dalles to ten different states 50,000 boxes of fruit (prunes and plums) or 1,200,000 pounds, by express, and fifty carloads of fruit (including some of the choicest varieties of apples) by freight. The Dalles Fruitgrowers' Union supplied the people of the East with 90,000 boxes of choice fruit grown in this locality, and fully 25,000 boxes of peaches were shipped by individuals, and thirty cars of watermelons, twenty cars of cantaloupes and five cars of tomatoes were also shipped. These shipments put into circulation about \$200,000. The lands that produced this fruit lie contiguous

at the Deschutes, thirteen miles distant, and at the Little Dalles, four miles away. There are other places where water power is equally available. At the head of navigation, the natural and logical starting points for roads to the interior, it is destined to be a great railroad center. With capital and enterprise the trade of the interior would center here and every train or electric motor would be a feeder for business and a stimulant to all kinds of productive industries.

"As regards climate, The Dalles is peculiarly favored. The long, cold, dreary winters of the East have never been experienced, and the heat in summer never becomes oppressive and debilitating. Violent storms are rarely if ever witnessed. The average rainfall is about fifteen inches, with temperatures in winter and summer that are healthful

While we are pruning we can also lay aside certain canes for cutting if we desire to increase our stock. Canes about the size of a large lead pencil make good cutting wood. For ordinary purposes I should plant these at once in rich moist soil and cover them with straw over winter. The growth of new wood should be carefully observed to see if the grapes are needing fertilizers. Too little wood is often due in part to drouthy weather and also to overbearing caused by leaving too much wood the year before. These factors should be taken into consideration. Give the ground a top dressing of stable manure and scatter a scoopful of wood ashes around each vine, and next year try a cover crop of cowpeas between the rows late in summer to remain till spring.

L. R. Johnson, Capt Girardeau, Mo.

## HOW DUFUR, OREGON STARTED TO GROW FRUIT

**T**HE story of how Dufur, Oregon, district came to engage in the fruit industry is an interesting one. Situated in the grain belt of Eastern Oregon, the discovery that the land there is adapted to fruit growing was an accident, and is best made known in the following article taken from *The Dalles Chronicle*:

Dufur opened her gates this spring to the world and invited the homeseeker. There are a thousand acres of the richest fruit lands now available in small tracts of from ten to twenty acres there for newcomers. Last spring the homeseeker going to Dufur would have departed discouraged, for there was no land to be bought in smaller tracts than 160 to 320 acres, and nobody seemed to want to sell even large farms, and there was not a real estate man in the place. Now there are three or four real estate firms ready to parcel out lands in desired quantities. Prominent citizens stand on the street corners and hold out the glad hand to all newcomers and offer to do anything and everything to make the stranger at home.

The skeptical might imagine that a boom had struck Dufur, but Mr. T. H. Johnston explains it differently:

"We have been too selfish before," he says. "We were all prospering and making money from our farms and stores; but the idea occurred to us that our placid prosperity was our curse. The town was not growing. The population remained about the same from year to year. So a few of us got together and discussed the situation. We had discovered that we have a fruit soil of wonderful fertility and a climate adapted to produce apples and pears to perfection. Other parts of Oregon far less favored than we were growing by leaps and bounds by developing their fruit-growing resources. We saw that the only way to build up such an industry was to cut up our large wheat farms into small tracts of ten to twenty acres. The next thing was to welcome outsiders to come in and buy this land and make homes among us.

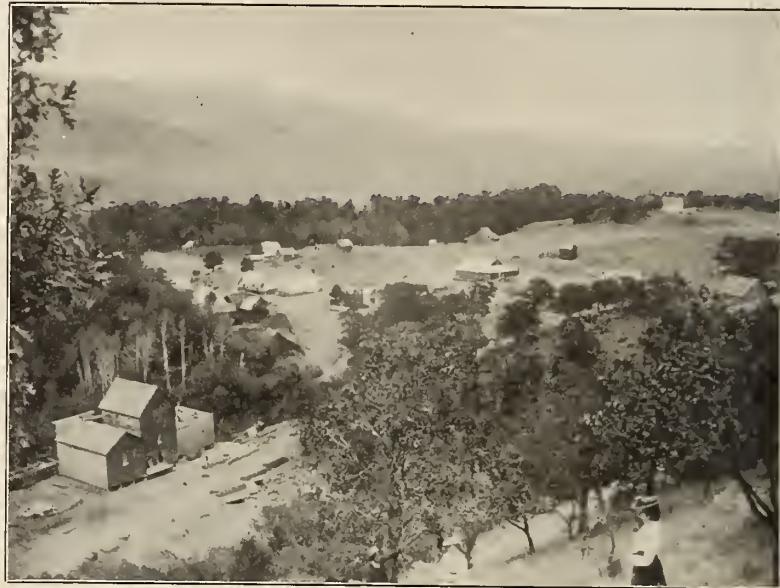
"So the business men of the town joined together and formed companies, bought large tracts and cut the land up into small parcels. To our surprise, however, our townspeople came forward and bought up these tracts so fast that we have had to buy farm after farm and subdivide, so as to have attractive offerings to make to the outside world.

"That is why you see such a transformation. It is not a boom but the beginning of a new growth. Land is

plentiful and cheap, and we want all the world to come and see us now and let us prove our sincerity and our resources."

For a generation the town has grown and thriven on the wealth of the wheat farms and stock ranches of the adjoining country. Strangers who chanced this way and commercial travelers reveled in the view of Mt. Hood, looming up above the town like a great white tent of the gods, saying that it was a

of apples gathered from farmers' home orchards, grown without any special care, actually took prizes over exhibits from the most famous commercial orchard districts in the state at The Dalles fair last fall. This convinced some of the more thoughtful citizens that the time was ripe for Dufur to come to the front as a fruit district, instead of dozing away its happy life as a little wheat farming town. It has been found



PEACH ORCHARD SCENE NEAR THE DALLES, OREGON

sight grander than Pikes Peak from Colorado Springs.

But so well content with the mere luxury of living in this favored spot were the old inhabitants, that until the present year they have never made any effort to let the outside world know of their little Eden. Last fall, however, it was fairly forced upon them that this was naturally adapted to become one of the greatest fruit growing sections of the Pacific Northwest. Some samples

that this wheat land, under proper cultivation, is the very best fruit land, needing no irrigation. In other parts of the county and state fruit land has risen to \$200, \$500 and \$1000 an acre while covered with trees and stumps, yet here was land cleared by nature, ready for tree planting, which could be put upon the market at \$100 an acre.

The result is that about a thousand acres are now laid out in small plots



GENERAL VIEW OF THE DUFUR, OREGON, DISTRICT, SHOWING ANOTHER VIEW OF MOUNT HOOD. THIS DISTRICT, WHICH HAS HERETOFORE BEEN LARGELY DEVOTED TO GRAIN GROWING, IS NOW BEING SET TO FRUIT TREES, WHICH ARE FOUND TO PRODUCE ABUNDANTLY THERE

adjacent to the town, and many tracts are being planted to apples and pears.

An exhibit of apples at The Dalles fair last fall made Dufur's possibilities as a fruit country apparent. Big and rosy, waxen and glistening, free from scale or blemish, they took twenty-three blue ribbons. It was seen then that Dufur could produce apples fit to ship to New York, London and other great markets of the world. This was what gave confidence to the people of Dufur and led them to form companies to

Newtowns. This orchard immediately adjoins the town and is the best possible object lesson on how a young apple orchard thrives here without irrigation. Last year some of the trees made a growth of eight feet. This was on bench land. There is an irrigating ditch above it but Mr. Balch did not find it necessary to turn any water upon the young trees.

He planted this orchard after observing an old farm orchard planted forty-five years ago, a little way up the valley.



APPLE OF THE WOLF RIVER VARIETY, GROWN NEAR DUFUR, OREGON, AND WHICH MEASURED SEVENTEEN AND ONE-HALF INCHES IN CIRCUMFERENCE. TWENTY-SEVEN BOXES OF APPLES WERE PICKED FROM THE TREE ON WHICH THIS APPLE WAS GROWN

parcel out land and encourage fruit growing.

It imparted new life to the commercial club there, also. Last fall it was merely a social organization. In thirty days its membership was increased from twenty-six to one hundred and twenty-six. Every citizen seemed eager to do something to bring about a new order of things in the town.

Even before the present orchard movement began in Dufur, Mr. C. P. Balch fore-saw the future possibilities of growing fruit on a commercial scale in Dufur Valley. Two years ago last November he set out fifty-five acres in winter apples, Spitz-embergs and Yellow

In all its history, according to local tradition, that orchard had never seen any failure of a crop, either from frost or any other cause. The apples and trees were entirely free from scale, although they had never been sprayed.

Its elevation of 1100 feet gives it a clearer, purer air than the low-lying lands along the Columbia River. The summers are cooler and the winters milder and less damp and raw than almost anywhere east of the Cascades.

Appreciating its scenic attractions, W. S. Ladd, the Portland millionaire, is thinking of erecting a fine hotel on Lookout Mountain. This is a spur of Mount Hood. The hotel will stand at an elevation of 6000 feet, near the foot of the glacier.

Dufur's history goes back about forty years, to the time when A. J. Dufur settled in what was then known as Fifteen Mile Creek Valley. He was a rancher and stock raiser and took up railroad land and bought from stockmen until he had acquired about seven hundred acres. The town that sprang up on the borders of his land naturally took his name. Mr. Dufur senior, died in 1895 and a considerable part of his property went to his son, W. H. H. Dufur, who now lives upon a large farm near the town. About twenty-five years ago there came to this town five brothers who were destined to play a prominent part in developing this region. They were T. H. Johnston, J. C. Johnston, George Johnston, S. B. Johnston and J. H. Johnston. The Johnston brothers first engaged in store keeping. But seeing the great profits in wheat farming and stock raising, they branched out into those industries. When fruit growing began to attract attention they were among the first to see its great possibilities and they have manfully helped to promote the new fruit growing movement. For buying and dividing up into small tracts, several companies were formed. One was the Johnston Brothers Company. They have put three hundred to four hundred acres on the market in ten to twenty acre tracts. The Dufur Orchard Land Company was organized for the same purpose last fall. It is composed of P. W. Knowles, C. H. Stoughton, George W. Johnston and Dr. H. C. Dodd. This company bought 356 acres in one body, a mile from town, up the valley. Within two months it was all in small tracts, except forty acres. Dufur people eagerly took this land at \$100 to \$125 an acre. About half of this land will be planted to apples and pears this spring. This is proof that the people living here, knowing all conditions of climate and soil, have faith in the fruit raising industry and believe it will become the principle production in this valley. P. M. Knowles, secretary of the company, took ten acres individually, and has it all planted to trees.

Altogether, there are, as stated above, about one thousand acres in small tracts on the market for fruit growers to select from, embodying everything from creek bottom land to the best orchard hill land. At the present rate of development all the bare hills around Dufur will be converted into orchards in a few seasons and the whole region will be a garden of fruit.



HOMESTEAD SCENE NEAR DUFUR, OREGON

# BETTER FRUIT

## HORTICULTURAL BOARD ON LIME-SULPHUR SPRAY

**T**HIS is the spray to use in winter for killing San Jose scale, and all other insects which are on fruit trees in winter. It is also one of the best fungicides. For destroying San Jose scale on fruit and other trees and shrubbery, use at any time during the winter at full strength of the formula given below. For preventing apple tree anthracnose (dead spot or canker) spray with full strength of formula about the first of November. For preventing peach leaf curl apply just before buds open in spring.

### Formula

Fifteen pounds of unslaked lime, 15 pounds of flowers of sulphur, 50 gallons of water.

Place part of the water in the vat or kettle and start the fire, and when the water comes to a boil add the lime and sulphur. Boiling should be continuous for at least an hour and until the sulphur has been dissolved. The liquid will then be red. It must be stirred while the boiling is going on.

Commercial preparations of the lime-sulphur spray are on the market in liquid form and are extensively used. Those which are properly made are efficient. Purchasers of the liquid form of this spray should require a guaranty from the manufacturers that when such sprays are diluted according to manufacturer's directions they will contain at least fifteen pounds of sulphur in solution in each fifty gallons of spray.

### Arsenate of Lead

This is the most satisfactory poison to use for the destruction of insects which eat fruit or foliage, as distinguished from those that suck juices or sap. It should be used to prevent injury from codling moth worms, caterpillars, slugs, etc. In fighting codling moth spray first about one week after the blossoms fall, and at intervals of four weeks until within three weeks of harvest.

### Formula

Four ounces arsenate of soda, 12 ounces acetate of lead.

Dissolve in water in separate buckets, pour together, and you have sufficient arsenate of lead for fifty gallons of water, and all you have to do is to pour your arsenate into the water and stir well.

The majority of fruit-growers buy arsenate of lead already compounded.

Dissolve the copper in hot or cold water, using a wooden or earthen vessel. Slake the lime in a tub, adding the water cautiously and only in sufficient amount to insure thorough slaking. After thoroughly slaking more water can be added and stirred in until it has the consistency of thick cream. When both are cold



RHODE ISLAND GREENING TREE ON THE PLACE OF H. J. CLARK, NEAR LYLE, WASHINGTON. FROM THIS TREE FIFTEEN BOXES OF APPLES WERE PICKED LAST YEAR THAT SOLD FOR TWO DOLLARS PER BOX

This is not the proper spray for San Jose scale or other lice.

### Bordeaux Mixture

This is the standard spray for use in fighting fungous diseases such as scab of apple and pear, apple tree anthracnose, peach leaf curl, etc.

### Formula

Four pounds of copper sulphate (blue vitriol), 4 pounds of lime (unslaked), 50 gallons of water.

Pour the lime into the diluted copper solution of required strength, straining it through a fine mesh sieve, and thoroughly mix. Use while fresh.

The above formula gives the strength for summer use. For winter use there should be six pounds of copper sulphate and six pounds of lime to fifty gallons of water. Experiments at the Oregon Experiment Station tend strongly to show that the lime-sulphur solution is to be preferred to Bordeaux mixture.

for preventing scab of the apple and pear. For summer use the lime-sulphur solution should be of the strength of fifteen pounds of sulphur and fifteen pounds of lime to seventy-five gallons of water, or, if the commercial solutions are used, fifteen gallons of water to one gallon of standard commercial liquid. For preventing apple scab or pear scab spray before blossoms open, with either lime-sulphur or Bordeaux mixture of winter strength. Spray again with either of these at summer strength as soon as blossoms drop. Give a third spraying about the first of June. Never spray with Bordeaux mixture when fruit is wet.

### Whale-Oil Soap and Quassia Chips

This is a standard spray for use in killing the apple or "green" aphis, "black" aphis, hop aphis, and all the common unprotected lice which prey upon fruit and other trees and shrubbery, garden vegetables, etc.

### Formula

Boil one pound quassia chips in four gallons of water for five hours, then add one pound whale-oil soap and continue boiling until the soap is dissolved. Add enough water to make eight gallons of spray. Use when first lice are observed.

A more extended list of spray formulas can usually be obtained by application to the Oregon Experiment Station at Corvallis. Inquiries concerning new or rare insect pests or plant diseases can be more satisfactorily answered by the Oregon Experiment Station than by this board.



ONE-YEAR-OLD PEACH ORCHARD ON WEBER FRUIT RANCH NEAR THE DALLES, OREGON

# LYLE, WASHINGTON, AS A FRUIT GROWING DISTRICT

WRITTEN FOR "BETTER FRUIT"

**T**HE most important questions a man will ask, when considering the purchase of a new home, are in regard to its location, climate, soil, crops, transportation, markets and schools. In attempting to tell the readers of "Better Fruit" something of the community we love and call home, we will consider these questions in the order

their needs, before the land reaches high prices. A pioneer in Hood River Valley, before the railroad was built, bought land at two dollars per acre, some of which cannot be bought now for six hundred dollars per acre raw, and perhaps double that amount if in orchard.

Those who have given the matter serious thought, think there is no ques-

prove second to none in value, the night temperature being warmer than places lower down the river and the day temperature more even than places farther east, so that all fruit has the best conditions for high coloring in this sunshiny land. Altogether, the climate is pleasant, healthful and profitable; sudden changes from heat to cold are almost unknown. Our temperature seldom goes

below zero, and then for only a short time. The heat of summer is tempered with cool breezes from the mountains, and the nights are comfortable for rest. Destructive frosts are almost unheard of. While other sections are having their fruit crops destroyed by frosts we are counting our blossoms and estimating our peach or apple pack for next fall. Our average annual rainfall for the last fourteen years, of 27.27 inches, as recorded by the government observatory near Lyle, is ample to develop a four-tier size, and cause the trees to bear all the apples they will hold. Our soil is of a rich, red, sandy, clay loam, with a clay subsoil, in depth from ten to one hundred feet. The grasses and other plants that have for years grown on the surface have worked into the soil until there is an abundance of humus to make it friable and hold moisture.

In well kept orchards moisture can be found at any time in the hottest, driest summers at three inches below the surface. Our trees continue to grow without a pause well into the fall; a three-year-old plum grown by Mr. George S. Canfield, seven miles from Lyle, made in 1907 a total terminal growth of 940 inches.

While our fruit growing industry is still in its infancy, there are sufficient small orchards to demonstrate beyond the shadow of a doubt what can be done. One of the pioneer growers of Hood River is this spring planting ten acres of strawberries on the river front west of Lyle. There is a reason. It is a veritable strawberry heaven. The finest of strawberries can be grown on the higher levels for the later crops. Mrs. W. H. Lawrence, during the season of 1907, marketed strawberries in Lyle and The Dalles grown five miles north of Lyle on high, unirrigated soil, which for size and flavor were the equal of the best berries of White Salmon or Hood River.

A high percentage of sugar is a well-known quality of Lyle fruit. The absence of alkali insures good shipping quality. Cherries seem to have found a natural home in our soil; the trees make a thrifty growth and yield abundantly, and Lyle will in time have a large canning industry. Peaches reach perfection here and a large acreage is being set. The Crawford, Alberta and Salway do splendidly,

and are favorite varieties with the peach men. A Bartlett pear tree, grown in sod, three miles from Lyle, has not missed a crop for years, many of the pears grow-

Continued on page 32



THREE-YEAR-OLD NEWTOWN TREE GROWN BY H. J. CLARK, NEAR LYLE, WASHINGTON

mentioned, and say all we can in the space given us.

Lyle community is on the north bank of the Columbia River, just east of the justly famous White Salmon, Washington, country, and north of Mosier, Oregon. In other words, it forms the fourth and youngest spoke of the fruit growing wheel, which has its hub at the mouth of Hood River, Oregon. We are ten miles from Hood River, and from five to ten miles from the White Salmon and Mosier districts. Our fruit growing district has an elevation from the level of the Columbia River of sixteen hundred feet, ten miles back from Lyle. It extends from the Columbia River back twenty-five miles to the top of Camas hill, and from the Klickitat River west, until it merges with the White Salmon district.

In the development of all new regions it is very common to see the first settlers overlooking or placing under condemnation the choicest locations, leaving to the late comer the cream of the land. Particularly is this true in sections suitable for fruit growing. In the case of the Lyle country, the fruit-growing industry is getting a late start, on account of the lack heretofore of railroad transportation. That difficulty being now overcome, the wise fruit growers are losing no time in choosing locations suited to

tion but that the same conditions are to be repeated at Lyle.

For growing early fruit, the land near the Columbia in the vicinity of Lyle will



THREE-YEAR-OLD SPITZENBERG TREE GROWN BY H. J. CLARK, NEAR LYLE, WASHINGTON

## DOINGS OF FRUIT GROWERS OF THE NORTHWEST

**B**RITISH COLUMBIA fruit growers are enthusiastic over the outlook for a big fruit crop there this year, and conservative estimates place it at more than one-fifth greater than last year, but W. J. Brandt, secretary of the British Columbia Fruit Growers' Association, states that it will be much bigger than this. The association already has an order from Australia for thirty thousand boxes of apples at very profitable prices.

Orondo, Washington, will be represented by its apples in Australia this year, as Wagner & Son, large growers there, have already sold forty thousand boxes which will be shipped to that country. Mr. Wagner last year shipped three thousand boxes to Australia and found it so profitable that he decided to make a much larger shipment this year and to accompany the fruit on its long trip.

Wedderburn, Oregon, has a district that is going into the walnut business extensively. A company there is setting out five-acre tracts that are being cared for until the trees are four to five years old, at the end of which time the tracts are turned over to the purchasers. The work of stimulating the walnut industry in that section is largely due to the Yamhill Walnut Growers' Association.

Hood River's strawberry crop this year amounted to about 65,000 crates of the finest berries ever shipped out of the valley. Cold weather in the early part of the season kept the berries from ripening, so that they grew to a much larger size than usual and made the crop somewhat later. In the early part of the season, however, big prices were received for those that were shipped and higher

prices were realized for a longer period than has ever been known in the history of the business. Good prices were also realized for the entire crop.

Kennewick, Washington, this year shipped about eleven thousand crates of berries, which is the record shipment for that district. The season ended there

bergs, Jonathans and Winesaps to an Eastern firm for \$2.25 per box. This grower's crop is four thousand boxes, and the sale would seem to indicate that prices will be pretty stiff this year.

Lewiston, Idaho, received its first carload of cherries June 15. The cherry crop of the Lewiston-Clarkston and

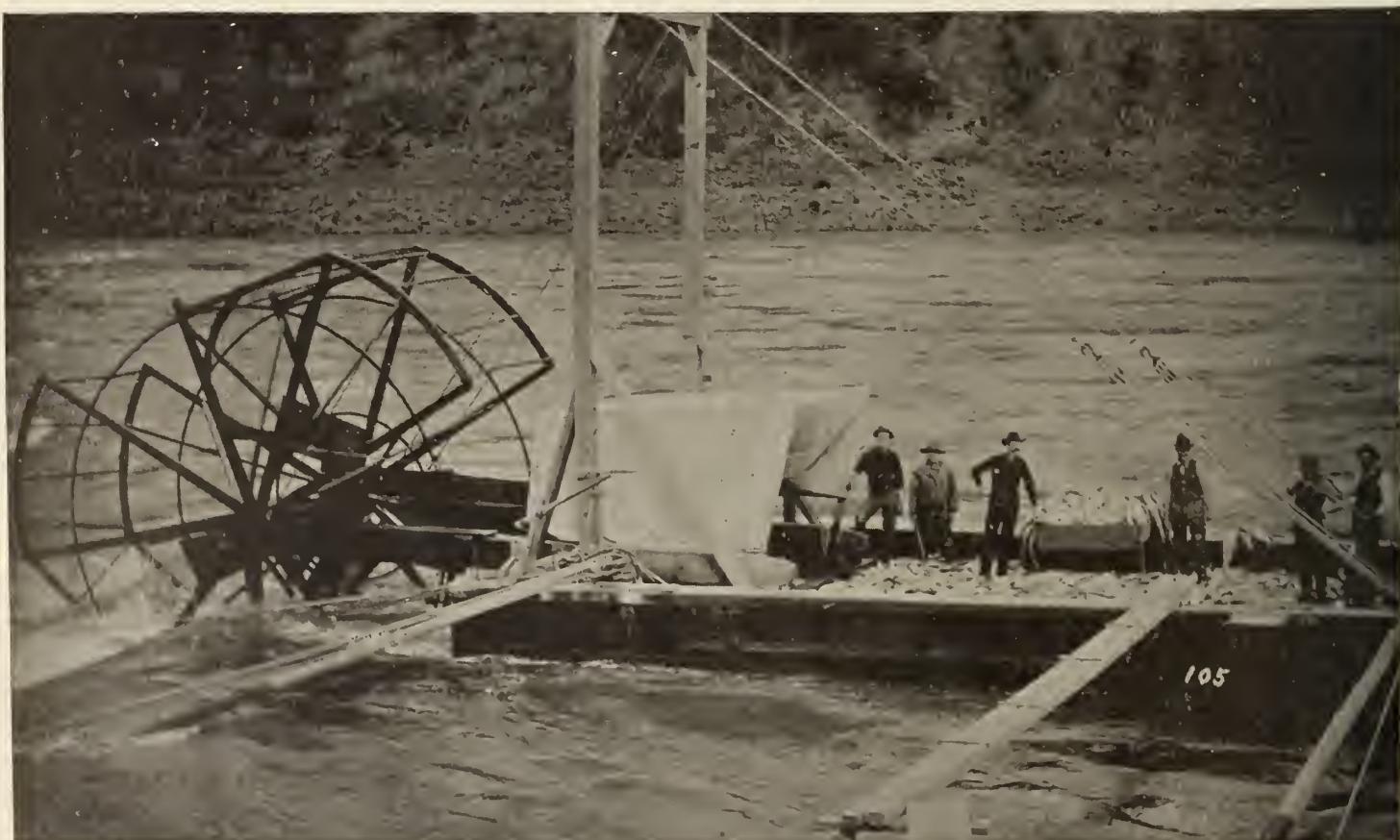


CRAWFORD PEACHES GROWN IN THE CITY OF ASHLAND, OREGON, BY J. N. RHINEHART

June 15, with the exception of small yields for home consumption.

A Wenatchee, Washington, fruit grower claims to have already sold his Spitzen-

Snake River countries is estimated at five hundred cars. These will be largely taken care of by the three canneries in that section.



FISH-WHEEL IN THE COLUMBIA RIVER NEAR THE DALLES, OREGON

## COMMERCIAL STANDARD AND FRUIT CONSUMPTION

**I**N recent seasons of average yield, the commercial producers of most of the fruits grown in the United States and Canada have been more acutely interested in the probability of finding good customers for their products than in securing larger crops. For a considerable period commercial fruit planting

consumption and that an indefinite era of ruinously low average prices for most fruits was confronting them.

Consideration of the various phases of the economic situation as now understood does not, in the judgment of the writer, confirm this view of fruit culture in general, though the very heavy plant-

among all classes of our population, and the fact that fruit of some sort now constitutes a regular item on the daily bill of fare on the home table, as well as an appetizing morsel between meals, indicates that with continued improvement in methods of packing, transporting and distribution we may reasonably expect a corresponding increase in fruit consumption per capita, provided the products offered are of tempting quality and attractive appearance and are placed in the consumer's hands in sound and wholesome condition.

In the neatness and attractiveness of package and packing there has been unquestioned improvement in the average practice of growers and shippers of most fruits in most sections in recent years. While there is still much room for improvement, the average rating of the visible supply in any of our larger markets, especially of that large portion of the crop which goes to market by rail or boat in packages rather than in bulk or in the owner's wagon, is much higher than before the gift package came into general use in our fruit trade. Whether the purchaser actually purchases a full barrel, box or basket, or limits his purchase to the quarter peck, the dozen or the pound, if other things are equal, he is likely to buy oftener and in larger quantities if the product is presented steadily in attractive form. Present tendencies in the important matter of package and method of packing, in so far as they tend toward neatness and attrac-



PEACH ORCHARD AND HOME OF A PROSPEROUS FRUIT GROWER AT THE DALLES, OREGON

appeared to forge ahead of increase in consumption, so that not a few planters have been discouraged by the outlook, somewhat to the detriment of their orchards and vineyards, through the conviction that production has outstripped

ing of a few popular sorts of rather indifferent quality, such as the Ben Davis apple, Elberta peach and Kieffer pear in some regions, gives rise to some apprehension in that direction.

The growing appreciation of fruits



HOME OF R. H. WEBER, PROPRIETOR OF THE DALLES NURSERIES, THE DALLES, OREGON

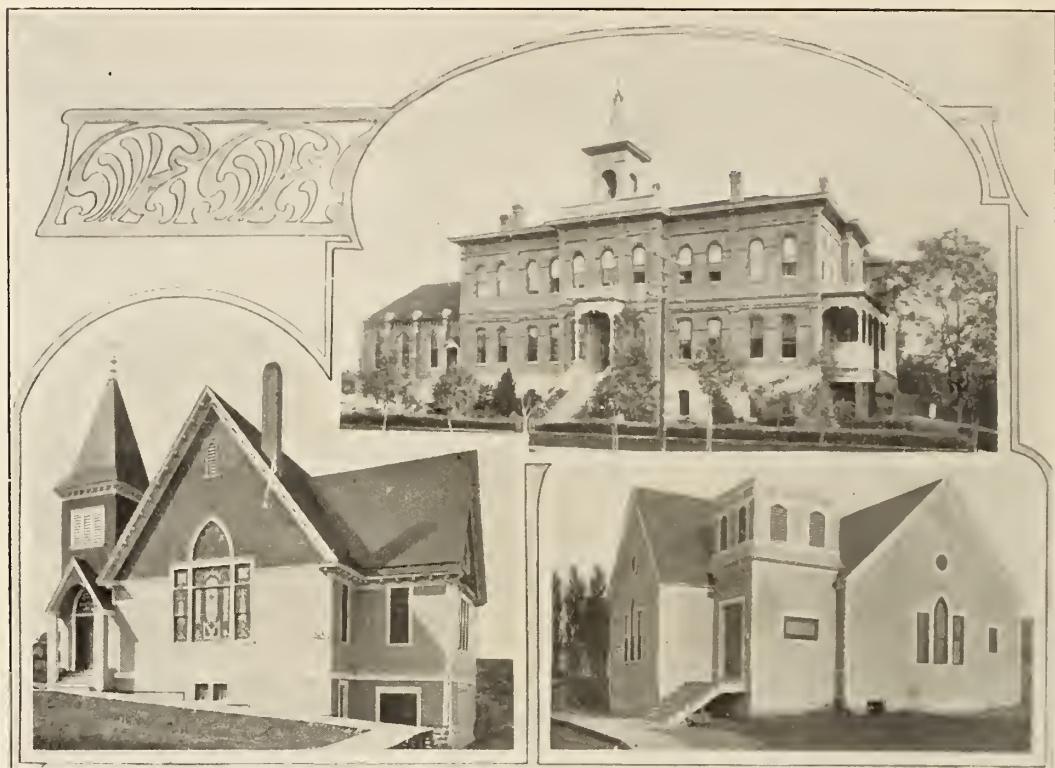
tiveness without deception as to quantity or quality of contents, undoubtedly promote consumption and are in the interest of the producer.

In certain other respects, however, the outlook appears less assuring. One of the most important of these is the matter of proper maturity of the fruit. As the distance of shipment has increased through the development of steam transportation, there has been an apparently increasing tendency among shippers to reduce the risk of decay in transit by harvesting and packing the more perishable fruits considerably in advance of proper maturity. Peaches, plums, cherries, and even the small fruits and early apples are not infrequently sent to the market so unripe as to render them unsatisfactory to the deluded purchaser, and in fact so unwholesome as to warrant their condemnation by the health officers. While this practice is usually more conspicuous in the case of the earlier ripening varieties and from the more remote regions, it is by no means limited to such, and, in the judgment of the writer, operates to retard the consuming demand for dessert fruits in our markets more than almost any other cause except insufficient supply and prohibitive price.

One basket of prematurely picked peaches or grapes or a single dozen sour oranges mistakenly purchased by the average consumer does more to discourage future purchases by him than even abnormally high prices for fruit that is

palatable and of fair quality. The risk involved in permitting most fruits to attain a moderate degree of ripeness before harvesting, when they are properly handled, has undoubtedly been greatly overestimated, and commercial practice must undergo decided modification in this respect before much further

development of fresh fruit consumption can be expected in either domestic or foreign markets. Greater care in handling, coupled with quick cooling and adequate and suitable facilities for transportation, are essential to the further growth and continued prosperity of most branches of the fruit industry.



GROUP OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS AT THE DALLES, OREGON



DIVERSIFIED FARMING AND ORCHARD SCENE NEAR THE DALLES, OREGON

In a recent consideration of fruit grade standards as affecting the consumer, the writer has been struck by the tendency to emphasize size in formulating and applying such standards at the expense of the other important characteristics that go to make up that composite whole which pomologists designate as



WASCO COUNTY COURTHOUSE, THE DALLES, OREGON

"quality" in fruit. Even in the generally accepted apple grades of the eastern United States, size determines grade to a larger extent than any other factor, while in some of the most faithfully observed peach grades that are being used size dominates all the other factors involved. This is true even to the extent of ignoring those distinctive and essential characteristics, color and flavor, which are commonly suggested by the appearance of the name of the variety upon the package.

Under this plan, all varieties, with one or two important exceptions in favor of conspicuous varieties, such as Elberta, are branded simply "A A White" or "Yellow," or "A" or "B" grade, as the case may be. With the "AA" standard set for "Elberta" size, the fruit of St. John or Barnard is necessarily branded as of

the lower grades, such as "A" or "B," notwithstanding their higher flavor and greater intrinsic value. This tendency, while by no means universal, is fairly

of the consuming public on this line through the medium of the press, and the placing of stronger emphasis on quality in the marketing of the product?



ONE OF THE MANY FINE HOMES AT THE DALLES, OREGON

typical of much of our commercial fruit grading practice, and it not only results in the disappointment of the consumer, but operates unfairly against the grower of the smaller varieties of higher quality. At least this is true until the consumer learns that the smaller fruit is actually the more valuable, provided the variety be right. The most serious ultimate effect upon the industry is through the fact that it tends to discourage the planting of the medium sized and smaller sorts, except where their superior hardiness or productiveness counterbalances the disadvantage they encounter in the market because of their smaller size.

The apparently increasing tendency to send Gano to market as Jonathan, or Illinois Ben Davis as "Kansas Queen" or other newly coined appellation, indicates that consumers are beginning to show indication of a disposition to discriminate in favor of high quality and against known mediocrity. Why should Red Canada or Northern Spy go to market at the same price as Baldwin? Is there not need of education

## THE CONVENIENCES OF A CITY ON FRUIT FARMS

DURING all the years of the nineteenth century the tendency of population was toward concentration in the cities. Census after census revealed an increasing ratio of city population over the country until that of 1890, which showed a lessening percentage. It is believed that at this, for the first time in a century, the tide has finally turned.

There is some question as to the cause. Ferguson, writing of English conditions, claims that generations of city living saps mentality and energy and leaves finally a generation unequal to city competition and compels a return to the less strenuous life of the country. An American thinker has hit upon a more probable cause. He claims the agricultural idea is instinctive in the race and that whenever the country can offer conditions of civilized life measurably equal to those of the city, men, responding to their instincts, will go back to the soil.

Whatever the cause, however, it is undoubtedly true that in these later years

there is a growing impatience among even the most successful of city men and women with urban life, and it is unquestionably largely because of this impatience that social and general living conditions in the country have improved. The man who first urged and agitated the building of a farmers' telephone line was an ex-merchant from Chicago, and the man who most strenuously urged Congress to the rural delivery was a farmer truly, but he had spent his earlier life among street cars, telephones, good sanitation and churches.

Every man who, being used to close neighbors and city conveniences, has gone back to the soil, has added something to the conveniences of country life, until now there are agricultural communities, particularly throughout the coast, that leave little to be desired even of the luxuries of city life.

The migration from city to country, ever growing greater, has led, more largely than any other factor, to the development of intensive farming on

irrigated lands. It is only where the cultivation of small farms is possible that the agricultural district can be given city advantages, for these advantages are consequent upon a thickly settled community—electric lights, telephones, street cars, etc., being only possible when a large number of persons are living in a small area.

It is more than probable that on the fruit lands at Lewiston, Idaho, the idea of city conveniences to a farming people has been carried to the greatest perfection. There a number of Oregon capitalists have created a district which is immediately suburban to the city of Lewiston, which gives to the farmer resident not only the conveniences of the ordinary city liver, but conveniences attainable only by those living in the best residence sections of the greater cities. A description of the Lewiston Orchards will not be entirely without interest.

Lewiston Orchards occupy a plateau partially within the city limits and stretch back toward the mountains with a gradual rise. The land has been divided into blocks and squares, by streets and alleys. The subdivisions have been made precisely as in a city, excepting that instead of each lot being but 50x100 feet the lots are 300x600 odd feet and contain five acres of practically level ground, extremely suitable for fruit culture. Each lot faces a street and abuts upon an alley, and, as in the city, there are eight lots to each block. The whole town plat, as it were, is in rectangles, the streets stretching away for miles without a turn. The word street has been used in describing these orchards and is not a usual word in writing of the country, but street is exactly the right word, for they are not ungraded, unmarked and uncultivated stretches dividing individual farms, but graded streets lined on both sides with young shade trees, all of the same variety in each street. One street will be Spanish Chestnut, another Walnut. They are not unmarked roadways, for every tract is fenced with a peculiarly ornamental white woven wire fencing, which forms the street border. Indeed, such a street system is not our common idea of the country.

Another likeness to city conditions are the close neighbors. The residences of those owning corner lots are usually placed at the street intersections and those owning the inside lots of a block, on the side nearest the street corners. Thus the corner resident has seven families within three hundred odd feet of him, eleven within six hundred feet, and no less than thirty-two within fifteen hundred feet. This, of course, providing that each family owns but five acres, which is usually the case.

The telephone is an old story in many farming communities these days, and of course they have it at Lewiston—with an added touch, for the telephone poles are ornamental, neatly painted in two colors, far from the usual stark monstrosities that line the country roads.

Not the least important "city feature" of Lewiston Orchards is the water system, which would be worthy of an article alone. In the first place, the water is mountain water taken from the streams at a high altitude and brought down to an immense artificial lake which is perhaps four hundred feet above the level of the land. The system of distribution from the lake is technically called the



ANOTHER VIEW SHOWING SEVEN-YEAR-OLD TREES IN THE MICHAEL ABURT ORCHARD AT DUFUR, OREGON, THAT BORE SEVEN BOXES TO THE TREE LAST YEAR

pressure system, but may be more readily understood by the simple statement that the irrigating and domestic water is handled precisely as in Portland or any other large city, there being no open flumes or ditches, but buried water pipes. What this means to the residents can be imagined readily enough. Pure running water under heavy pressure for bathtubs, sinks, fire protection and closets is not a usual country condition by any manner of means. Those who have studied the problem of irrigating an orchard will readily appreciate the convenience of pressure water over the usual flowing ditches. Indeed, in the point of time alone the Lewiston people declare that they perform the necessary irrigation in one-tenth the time it would require by the ordinary means.

The scientific irrigationist, and possibly the lay public, will be interested in a more technical view of the plant. The great reservoir occupies a natural depression in the hills, with one side wall formed by the largest, or possibly one of the largest, earthen dams in the world. This enormous mass of material is ninety-eight feet high, five hundred feet wide and no less than four thousand and twenty-five feet long. The water pipes, which bring the water down the alleys to each lot, are from ten to fourteen inches in diameter, and the water is carried into the lots through three-inch piping and under a pressure of from fifty to one hundred feet head. The house owner has ample force to throw a stream over any house he is likely to construct, thus providing practical fire protection. Water for domestic uses is furnished free.

When irrigating, the fruit grower usually lays a two or three-inch wooden pipe across the higher side of his lot. In this he places any number of pipes and faucets he wishes. He may take his water at any time or in any desired quantity. By the reservoir and pressure systems he may take as much water as he considers his fruit trees need during the hot season or when the fruits are ripening. He takes it without regard to the amount his neighbors are using, without notice to the ditch superintendent, in fact he is absolute master of his water supply. So ample the quantity and so great the force that he could, if he would, receive half the season's supply in twenty-four hours.

Engineers engaged in irrigating enterprises have judged the Lewiston system to be a model of efficiency. The irrigationists who have peopled and are rapidly peopling the valley cannot speak too highly of its technical excellence and convenience.

In the days of bad city sanitation, inefficient or faulty sewers and corrupted water supply, typhoid fever was a city disease, but in this day typhoid is largely a disease of the farm and is caused by the seepage of human excreta from privy vaults to the well. At Lewiston, with the enclosed water pipes, no such condition prevails, and typhoid and allied diseases are an impossibility.

What more, then, does the resident need to make his farm equal in point of convenience to his city fellows? Possibly only those conveniences which may be summed up in the words "grocery deliveries." And these he has, for being essentially a part of the city of Lewiston, which is certainly no country town, the groceryman delivers groceries, the butcher meat and the milkman milk. He has also the theatre for amusement, the church for worship and schools for his children.

The time will undoubtedly come, as every tendency is in that direction, when not only at Lewiston, but in a hundred neighborhoods in the West, the farmer will have nothing of envy for the man who breathes the smoke of factories and whose ears are dulled by the clang and clatter of congested traffic on stone pavements in narrow city streets.

### PRUNING SMALL FRUIT

If not done before, now is a good time for trimming the small fruits. Such a job cannot be put off very much longer. Among raspberries remove the dead wood and cut the laterals back to twelve inches. This is supposing they have been cut in July to induce branching. But if not, the top third should be followed in handling blackberry rows. Those who are growing tender varieties have them already trimmed and laid down for the winter, but most people grow the hardy Snyder which does very well without protection. A common cause of failure with currants is to let

the bushes get too thick and the result is very small fruit. In such cases half or more of the old wood should be cut away. Always remove the oldest stalks. Bushes should be left open and only the most thrifty of the new shoots spared to take the place a year or two later of the present bearing wood. Follow the same plan with the gooseberry. It is better to trim grape vines now than later in the season. Two main stems from one root is enough to leave to be trained up in fan shape. If the new shoots have made a vigorous growth, cut off all but about eighteen inches.

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Almost the whole world knows of Hood River as a place that produces the best fruits, and all of Hood River Valley should know, and could know, that there is one place in Hood River, under the firm name of R. B. Bragg & Co., that the people can depend on getting the most reliable dry goods, clothing, shoes and groceries at the most reasonable prices that are possible; try it.



VIEW SHOWING SIX-YEAR-OLD TREES IN ORCHARD OF MICHAEL ABURT, NEAR DUFUR, OREGON, WHICH LAST YEAR BORE SIX BOXES OF FRUIT TO THE TREE

## INTERESTING ITEMS FROM DIFFERENT SECTIONS

**T**HE Yakima Valley Fruit and Produce Growers' Association of Granger held its annual meeting June 1 and elected George P. Eaton, Henry Greiner and A. C. Turner directors. The annual report of the association showed that it was on a paying basis and its members are very much encouraged by the bright outlook for its prospects in future. At a meeting of the trustees Byron Thompson was elected president, Amos Bush vice president, George Dunn secretary and A. C. Snowden treasurer.

Medford, Oregon, is experiencing much activity in its fruit industry in all lines. The largest sale of a fruit orchard there ever made took place recently in the sale of the fine place of J. W. Perkins, which is reported to have brought \$78,000. The purchasers were a large Seattle syndicate, headed by E. J. Martin. In order to supply purchasers with smaller tracts, considerable acreage at Medford has lately been subdivided for the small purchases. A new industry that has been started at Medford is the growing of fruit tree stocks. The proposition will be put in operation soon and is expected to result in a better grade of stock for that section.

Yakima, Washington, Horticultural Union, which had a most successful season last year, recently met and elected all of the old directors. The meeting was largely attended, 1503 shares being represented, and E. E. Samson, the association manager, gave an interesting talk on the business of the union during the past year. He asked the directors to consider the proposition of taking fruit for sale from growers outside of the organization, as it could be handled without extra expense and do away with competition. A resolution was also passed commending the management and the directors for their efficiency in managing the union.

La Grande, Oregon, reports state that the cold weather in the early part of June did some damage in that district to cherries and apples, but not enough to cut the crop short.

Riddle, Oregon, recently organized a fruit growers' association by the election of I. A. Dean secretary and B. F. Nichols

treasurer. The association was formed with the idea of promoting the interests of fruit growers in that section, and a joint meeting of fruit growers and farmers will be held there next fall.

Albany, Oregon, is the claimant to two five-year-old peach trees that have 1665 peaches on them. The trees are in the yard of H. S. Wilkinson in that city.

Medford, Oregon, is experiencing much activity in its fruit industry in all lines. The largest sale of a fruit

for the small purchases. A new industry that has been started at Medford is the growing of fruit tree stocks. The proposition will be put in operation soon and is expected to result in a better grade of stock for that section.

Walla Walla County, Washington, has 931 acres in fruit trees, 512 of which are in apples. Yakima County leads all the other counties in the state, having 22,682 acres in bearing trees, and with but one exception that county has more acreage



SPITZENBERG APPLE TREES IN AN ORCHARD NEAR THE DALLES, OREGON

orchard there ever made, took place recently in the sale of the fine place of J. W. Perkins, which is reported to have brought \$78,000. The purchasers were a large Seattle syndicate, headed by E. J. Martin. In order to supply purchasers with smaller tracts, considerable acreage at Medford has lately been subdivided

in bearing of the different kinds of fruit than any other. The exception is in the case of plums and prunes. Clarke County leads the state in this instance, having a bearing acreage this season of 3967, which is 3000 acres more than the nearest competitor, Whitman County. Yakima, which leads in every other kind of fruit, has but seventy-four acres set to plums and prunes in bearing this season.

Everson, Washington, Valley Home furnishes the following interesting item: "J. B. Corkins brought to this office a branch which had broken from one of the small crab-apple trees growing on his place across the river. The crab-apples were counted and the limb surface measured. It was found that on twenty-six inches lineal limb surface just one hundred and twenty healthy crab-apples were growing. Mr. Corkins states that the trunk of the tree is about an inch in diameter and the branch brought to this office was not half that size."

At Echo, Oregon, sage brush and arid plains are giving way to fruit and vegetable farms. This transformation is taking place under the Furnish project and by fall it is expected that at least one thousand acres will be set to fruit trees, apples, pears, peaches and cherries.

California reports a big crop of all kinds of fruit this year, with an abundant supply of early varieties. Apricots, peaches, plums and pears are all said to have done well and promise to be of extra fine quality.

The Dalles, Oregon, placed the first shipment of cherries on the Portland market this year. These were received by Dryer, Bollam & Co., and brought \$1.25 per box.



SPITZENBERG TREES BUT ONE YEAR FROM THE BUD, IN THE NURSERY OF R. H. WEBER AT THE DALLES, OREGON

# GROWING PEACHES IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST

BY PROFESSOR W. S. THORNBER, PULLMAN, WASHINGTON

**T**HE peach, like many other foreigners that have come to this country, has found a soil, a climate and other surroundings very much to its liking and while the fruit growers have been taking it up it likewise has been securing a very strong hold upon the consumers.

The many early plantings of this fruit, while experimental in nature, have been remarkable successes, and while some

Today we find both fresh and canned fruit playing an important part in our food supply, where salt pork, corned beef and "Johnny cake" were the chief articles of diet in many of our country homes of forty years ago, and we fruit men, at least, are satisfied that the people are better for this change. Our markets have never known an over-production of first class fruit of any kind and the probabilities are that they never

peach industry for the man who is satisfied in raising inferior fruits.

The manner of meeting these conditions is today more apparent than ever, and the sooner the local grower realizes them the better off he will be. We must plant peaches in those specially favored districts where they will grow best, and use other lands where inferior grades and undesirable varieties only can be grown for other crops. In order to prevent local gluts or poor distribution, as they really are, we must develop new markets, unify and improve our methods of grading and packing, simplify and systematize our methods of harvesting in order to place the crop on the market in the best possible condition, and arrange for the utilization of over-ripe or inferior grades through the processes of canning, drying, preserving, jellies, and, finally, denatured alcohol for the waste and culls. Much of this work can only be done through local fruit unions and similar organizations who are in the best position to keep in touch with the prices, markets and other fruit conditions the country over.

## Our Peach Areas

If one would carefully study the known peach areas of North America today he would be surprised at the small amount of land that can be profitably utilized in the production of this much prized crop. These areas are scattered in all parts of the country and are always limited in size, if not in market conveniences. The West affords the greatest amount of real peach lands, while the South has an advantage over the markets. However, since the introduction of the improved fruit car distance means but little to us. The State of Washington has over seven thousand acres in peaches today. The acreage is being rapidly increased annually and it is only a matter of time before this will be one of our stable fruit crops.

## Location and Exposure

The question, Where shall I locate to successfully grow peaches? is a very common one and one that we are very



GROUP OF PICKERS WITH BASKETS OF PEACHES IN THE DALLES, OREGON, DISTRICT

soils have proven unecongenial or the climate too rigid, yet, as a whole, success has followed in the wake of the planter and today thousands of acres of land are known to be extremely valuable for this crop that were formerly supposed to be vast areas of waste land, yes, worse than this, they were supposed to form part of what was known as the Great American Desert.

We are still in the infancy of this industry in the West, and if its marvelous growth continues for the next ten years as it has in the past five, instead of an industry of from seven to ten thousand acres, it will be one of from seventy to one hundred thousand acres of land, and we will be known as one of the greatest peach growing sections that the world has ever known.

## The Outlook.

Already the ever-present, over-cautious man has raised his hand against these extensive plantings. His cries are "over-production," "high labor," "disease," "pestilence," etc., in fact, any harm that may come to the would-be peach grower. The time of over-production is as remote today, and even more so, than it was twenty-five years ago. Improved methods of transportation, the introduction of new firm fruits, greater skill in the growing of the crop, the rapid growth of our population and the opening up of new markets have all played a prominent part in practically eliminating the idea of over-production. The fact that the American people are rapidly becoming a fruit and vegetable eating people must not be overlooked.



PEACHES ON THE TREE IN A WENATCHEE, WASHINGTON, ORCHARD

frequently called upon to answer. We never answer it, however, without realizing that it involves a great many factors and should never be settled individually without taking into consideration as near a complete study as possible of the different factors that enter into successful peach culture. The prospective grower would do well to study his chosen location with reference to the soil, the possible markets, the elevation, and transportation methods. Experience has taught us that certain areas are far more subject to late spring frosts than others. While growers prefer five full crops out of every five, yet some of our growers tell us that there is money to be made in peaches if they can successfully harvest two crops out of every five. While the frostiness of an area is an important factor, and we would hesitate about locating in it, yet it may frequently be improved locally by preparing good air drainage and selecting carefully the slightly higher lands within the district. We are realizing more and more the importance of perfect air drainage for our orchards, not only on account of the frostiness, but on account of the freedom from plant diseases, insect pests, etc. The soil to be dealt with is another important factor, and while most any soil in our state will produce peaches, yet the best and finest peaches can only be grown upon a rich, light, sandy loam which contains lots of iron, has a good clay subsoil and perfect drainage. The soils of the various areas are almost ideal in their composition, content and drainage. The altitude is another factor that we must consider, and while many of our higher altitudes produce fine, firm peaches, yet with the soil and conditions that we have or can supply, the lower altitudes of our state are producing the best fruit. In fact, I feel that the time will never come when many of our higher altitudes will be used for peaches. However, peaches are successfully grown in higher altitudes. The method of transportation is one of the

factors that is usually neglected by the amateur grower. He feels that the prime object is to produce first-class fruit, and, while this is true, if he cannot market it, of what value is his fruit? As a rule, other things being equal, the best loca-

cally hauled by wagon and the roads over which this fruit must be transported are important factors in our industry. With the average Washington road, we place a limit of from three to five miles for this hauling, and while considerable



THREE-YEAR-OLD PEACH TREE IN ORCHARD OF J. H. CARSTENS, NEAR NORTH YAKIMA, WASHINGTON, THAT MEASURES TWELVE FEET SIX INCHES IN DIAMETER

tion is that place which offers the most means of getting the fruit crop away. Some of our best peach areas are practically worthless for this crop, since they have poor or no shipping facilities. The distance that peaches can be economi-

fruit is hauled further than this, yet much of it is injured or bruised to such an extent that it cannot receive the same price that a fruit that has not been hauled can.

#### Examples of Productive Orchards

The crops that certain orchards are handling in our state are almost marvelous to the unfamiliar fruit grower. Last summer in a number of districts I made special inquiry as to the exact yields of certain orchards, and as a result of this investigation I submit the following examples: A four-year orchard of one hundred and four trees per acre near Wenatchee, Washington, averaged over thirty boxes per tree, and the fruit was sold at eighty cents per box. A five-year-old orchard of one hundred and four trees per acre near North Yakima averaged thirty-eight boxes per tree and the crop was sold at eighty cents to one dollar per box. While these two examples are not as large as some which I had access to, yet they give us a fair idea of the possibilities of this crop under favorable conditions. It is needless to say that these men are making money, and, best of all, they are entirely satisfied with their work. It is also needless for me to say that every man cannot do this. These men were making a business as well as a living with their peaches.

#### Varieties

Only such varieties as are known to produce first-class commercial peaches should be planted in the commercial orchard. The ideal peach for market is a yellow freestone of good size, beautifully colored, firm fleshed, of good shape and carrying qualities. While there is some call for a white freestone, yet the market for this is limited, and the plan-



BASKET OF LEMON CLING PEACHES, GROWN AND PHOTOGRAPHED BY J. E. HARVEY OF ROSBURG, OREGON

tation should be governed accordingly. Most of our canners prefer a cling, whether it be white or yellow, to the freestone, and they will readily take from our orchards the surplus of any well-grown fruit. The idea of the com-

From a large number of replies received from growers in our state relative to the best commercial varieties of peaches to grow, over 75 per cent of them placed Elberta first and practically all placed it in the list somewhere. Other

securing varieties true to name, and while this difficulty can be eliminated to a certain extent by dealing only with reliable nurseries or well-known agents, yet occasionally a bunch of headed-in seedlings or, worse still, a bunch of swamp willows, will be pawned off upon the unsuspecting grower.

The majority of our growers are almost unanimous in their choice of desiring one-year-old budded trees for planting; however, a few prefer the dormant bud or June budded stock. Yearling stock, however, has given by far the most satisfactory results. Occasionally we find a planter who prefers an older tree; however, these are rare, and as the growers become better acquainted with what is desired as a bearing tree more of them are buying strong one-year-olds in order to produce first-class trees. A peach tree of this age and condition is in first-class condition for the first and most important pruning that it will ever receive. At this age its future value is easily increased 100 per cent or almost ruined, as far as the production of first-class fruit is concerned.

#### Pruning the Young Tree

Before planting, the roots should be thoroughly inspected and all bruised or split portions should be removed with a sharp knife. These cuts should be made in such a way that the cut surfaces rest upon the bottom of the hole, rather than face upwards or outwards. This method of root pruning gives the cut surface a better chance to secure plenty of moisture as it raises, which aids materially in the callousing as well as the branching of the roots. The top may be successfully treated in one of two ways, after the initial cut is made, which consists of cutting the top off from fifteen to eighteen inches from the ground. This is the only way to secure a low-headed tree, and since we desire to keep our tree in manageable shape, this pruning, of all others should not be neglected. The remaining small or lateral branches may



DISPLAY OF PEACHES, APPLES AND NECTARINES GROWN IN ASOTIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON, AND EXHIBITED AT THE LEWISTON AND CLARKSTON FAIR, 1907

mmercial orchard is changing from time to time. Now we find ourselves limiting the number of varieties to from four to five in the small orchard and to eight or a dozen in the large orchard. It is evident that the smaller the orchard the fewer the number of varieties. However, I would never plant an orchard, however large or however small, to any single variety, since peaches, like most other orchard fruits, do better if planted in variety rather than singly, and another thing, the entire crop is not so likely to be infested by insects or diseases if the grower has several varieties. As a general rule I would not plant less of any variety than what would produce under ordinary circumstances a good carload of fruit, and would increase this if possible. The only excuse for planting a very large number of varieties in an orchard at the present time is to extend the harvest season over a longer period of time, and this, as you see, is of vital importance to the average fruit grower in Washington, where the element of labor enters into the harvesting of the crop so materially as it has in the past. After all, the best advice that we can give relative to varieties may be secured in any locality from the prominent and successful growers, and while much conflicting information will be gained, yet the average man will be able to cull out what seems to be the best advice and discard what looks like false or misleading information. A few years ago 75 per cent of our commercial peaches in the United States were made up of Elbertas, and while this particular variety is to peaches as the Concord grape is to grapes, yet there are other varieties that ripen both earlier and later than this particular one, which should be taken into consideration.

varieties repeatedly named were Salway, Early Crawford, Late Crawford, Foster, Malta and Carmin. Other varieties were named, yet not so prominently as these named in this list.

#### Trees to Set

One of the most difficult problems that the grower has to contend with is



A TWO-YEAR-OLD PEACH ORCHARD AT HOOD RIVER, OREGON

be cut back to the stem or left from two to three inches in length. Either method produces good results. A healthy young peach tree is such a rampant grower that it will frequently produce several limbs on this young stem from two to four feet in length during the first year's growth. Just as the first pruning heads the tree down low, the second pruning decides the shape of the tree. This should be done with care and knowledge of what it means to the tree. The most popular form is known as the open top, low vase, and to secure this the branches of the young tree, after one year's growth, are thinned out to from three to five and cut back from fifteen to twenty-four inches in length. This seems like a waste of good material, but we must remember that we are making a framework that is to hold fruit and foliage for the next fifteen or twenty years. A tree pruned in this way will rarely split under a heavy load of fruit, since the frame is so much stronger than the rest of the tree. While the first and second prunings have been for the purpose of making the tree, the following prunings should be with the idea of fruit production.

The advantages of a low-headed tree are numerous, while the disadvantages are almost if not entirely eliminated. In fact, the only prominent disadvantage raised at the present time is that it requires more labor to cultivate under a low-headed tree than it does under and around a high-headed tree. But improved spreading cultivators and side draft plows have practically eliminated this difficulty. The low-headed tree has many advantages, prominent among which are the following.

1. Easily pruned.
2. Fruit is economically thinned.
3. Less windfalls.
4. More economically sprayed.
5. Picking is less expensive, while the fruit is obtained in better condition.

#### Preparation of the Soil

Before planting a peach tree, or, for that matter, any kind of a fruit tree, the soil should be thoroughly subdued and in the very best of condition. If the land is old and has been used for other crops, usually one good deep plowing will suffice, but if it is sagebrush and greasewood land it is usually better to grow one good crop of hay or grain on it before planting to trees, in order to partially subdue and add some humus and body to the soil. If there is not time for the growth of a crop before planting time, at least a cover crop of hairy vetch or rye should be sown late in the summer and grown until planting time, if not until late the following spring. A good crop of green manure plowed under before planting the trees does an immeasurable amount of good to the soil. A deeply plowed, thoroughly tilled soil tends to produce the fine, deep-rooted trees, while a poorly prepared soil may hold the trees back for years.



BLOCK OF WINTER BANANA APPLE TREES ONE YEAR FROM BUD, IN THE WEBER NURSERIES AT THE DALLES, OREGON

#### Time of Planting

The time at which peach trees should be planted is fairly well settled in the minds of most of our growers, and while

we find a few doing fall or late spring planting, yet most of them favor early spring as the ideal time. If the soil is in good condition and the weather permits, the latter part of February or early in March are the favored days. If the soil is in the proper moisture condition it should be tramped very firmly about the roots, otherwise the roots will not have an opportunity to make the same start they would otherwise. The newly planted orchard tree should stand from one to two inches lower than it formerly stood in the nursery. The process of firming the soil around the trees is of great importance where there is apt to be a scarcity of water and should never be neglected. More trees die because of the lack of this than for any other single cause.

#### Planting Plans

The distance apart that peach trees should be planted varies considerably with the soil, climate and the method of pruning that is to be employed. However, we frequently find growers who advocate that thirteen by



MAIN STREET, THE DALLES, OREGON



INTERIOR VIEW OF THE GENERAL PROVISION ESTABLISHMENT OF HUNT & ROBERTS, ONE OF THE FINE STORES TO BE FOUND AT THE DALLES, OREGON

thirteen feet is the desirable distance, while others claim that twenty-five by twenty-five feet is as close as they should be planted. The majority of our plantings range from eighteen by eighteen feet to twenty by twenty feet, and for ordinary methods of pruning and the average soil this is not far from what is best. After the trees begin to crowd each other it is a simple matter to remove every other tree in each row and leave them with a diagonal distance of from twenty-six to twenty-eight feet apart for fruiting in their mature years.

While the peach is very successfully used for a filler for apples, pears, etc., yet there is nothing that can be used as a filler for the peach orchard.

However, close planting and systematic thinning are valuable substitutes for the process of fillers. The use of peaches as fillers in our apple orchards is a valuable practice, if rigidly lived up to, but few men can cut out a healthy, growing peach tree before it does material damage to the apple or standard. The practice has a few disadvantages, which may be overcome by a little forethought in planting.

#### Pruning of the Bearing Tree

The pruning of the bearing tree differs very little from that given to the young, only that we now prune for fruit, or at least for the development of fruit buds, while before we pruned primarily for wood and growth. The tops must be kept well thinned out, injured branches removed, long pole-like growths cut back, and the whole tree thinned and yearly semi-juvenated. The nature of this pruning will depend entirely upon the soil, variety and moisture, but in all cases the watchwords will be severe heading back and systematic thinning of the branches yearly. As the old main branches become diseased, bruised or broken, they must be replaced by new

ones, which under ordinary circumstances may be selected from strong young shoots which are frequently making their appearance from the main stem of the tree. The season of the year at which this pruning must be done will be governed somewhat by the climate; however, late in the winter is the most favored time by most growers. An interesting fact was noticed last year in a frost-injured orchard, one-half of which was pruned before the freeze, the other left until after the trees blossomed. The part that had not been pruned before the frost suffered little or no injury, while the crop of the early pruned portion was very severely injured, if not quite destroyed.

#### Cultivation of Orchard

Under our intense financial systems of immense profits and quick returns, we are compelled to get some income from the orchard land while awaiting the real crop, and so it behooves us to select the crop that will do the trees and soil the least harm, and give us the greatest returns for our labor at minimum expenditures.

Grass and grains should be rigidly barred from this list, since only cultivable crops can be permitted. A perennial crop like small fruits or even strawberries is very apt to be left too long; however, they are frequently profitably used. A hoed crop, like cabbage, roots or even potatoes is preferably the best; however, it is claimed by some that potatoes tend to poison the soil for peaches when grown too close to them. After the land is given over entirely to the peaches the regular cultivation should commence as soon as possible in the spring, either by thorough plowing



HAYING AND ORCHARD SCENE, SHOWING MOUNT HOOD IN THE DISTANCE, NEAR THE DALLES, OREGON

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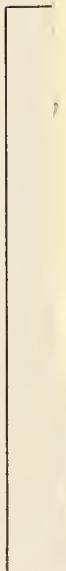
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or disking and cross-disking, until the soil is well pulverized. The cultivation that follows this will be of the nature of surface work to kill the small weeds, maintain the dust mulch and conserve moisture. Nothing can take the place of clean tillage in the orchard during the early part of the season.

#### Cover Crops

Practically all of our Western soils may be materially improved by the judicious use of cover crops. The crops, whether of rye, vetch, Canada peas or even corn, should be sown about the middle of August and permitted to grow or at least remain on the surface until early in May, when it can be plowed under to add food and humus to the soil. By sowing as late as the middle of August no injury is done to the growing fruit crop, while the growing of the trees is checked and

PANORAMIC VIEW OF THE WEBER NURSERIES AND ORCHARDS IN THE DALLES, OREGON, FRUIT-GROWING DISTRICT, SHOWING COLUMBIA RIVER IN THE DISTANCE



like a great waste of energy to grow a crop of young peaches to the size of small prunes and to then deliberately pull off from one-half to three-fourths of them. However, he soon learns that peaches four to six inches apart are close enough for the best results.

easier to handle and market nice large peaches than it is poor, small fruit of equal weight.

#### Harvesting and Marketing

Western horticulture is frequently called the new horticulture, and truly is this the case, if

grower, commission man and consumer to handle.

Probably no crop grown in the West requires more care than the harvesting and marketing of peaches. The least scratch or bruise soon shows up to the disadvantage of the crop, so

handle eggs. These picking receptacles may be buckets or baskets; however, most of our growers prefer a burlap-lined basket that will hold from twenty to twenty-five pounds. The fruit is picked in these baskets, loaded on flat-topped, heavy spring

junct. It is the only reasonable way to economically handle overripe, poor fruit.

#### Insect Pests and Plant Diseases

The insect pests and plant diseases that are bothering our peaches are not numer-



VIEW SHOWING PART OF SIXTY-ACRE PEACH ORCHARD BELONGING TO GEORGE COOPER, NEAR THE DALLES, OREGON. FROM THIRTY ACRES OF THIS ORCHARD MR. COOPER LAST YEAR TOOK TEN THOUSAND BUSHELS

the wood is hardened off before the winter comes on.

#### Thinning the Fruit

One of the hardest tasks for the amateur to perform is to thin sufficiently. It seems

We must realize that a tree can produce a certain amount of first-class fruit, and if more be permitted to grow the size of the fruit must be reduced; also that it does not cost any more to pick the fruit at one time than it does at another, and that it is much

for no other reason than the way we harvest and market our crops. The barrel, the sack and the basket are fairly things of the past, and now our crop goes to the market in neat, attractive, beautifully labeled boxes and crates of the most convenient size possible for the

means should be provided to eliminate as far as possible all these defects. The picking should be done under a competent orchard boss, whose duty it is not only to direct the work, but also to see that the fruit is not allowed to drop into the picking receptacles, but, rather, is gently placed in as one would

wagons and hauled directly to the packing house, where it is carefully graded, wrapped in paper, placed in boxes which hold about twenty pounds, and at once nailed up ready for shipment. After the fruit leaves the tree, the sooner it is packed for market the better condition it will be in. A few growers

ous; however, they should be carefully guarded against in order to avoid serious injury from their attacks before curative means are used upon them.

Up to the present time I have never seen or heard of a case of the much dreaded "peach yellows" in the West; however, it



PANORAMIC VIEW OF THE DALLES, OREGON

grade their peaches into three grades, known as "Fancy," "A" and "B." The boxes of "Fancy" contain from forty-four to sixty-four fruits, while "A's" run from sixty-four to eighty and "B's" from eighty to ninety fruits. Of course this requires time and skill, but this is the system that is making our Western fruit sell.

We need not mention in this connection that one of the most important factors for the selling of fruit is the local union or association, and every community that raises fruit of any kind should organize and procure these benefits. The cannery is still another important adjunct. It is the only reasonable way to economically handle overripe, poor fruit.

#### Insect Pests and Plant Diseases

The insect pests and plant diseases that are bothering our peaches are not numer-

may exist in an unnoticed condition in some of our large districts, simply waiting for proper conditions to develop it. The greatest possible care should be exercised to keep this as well as other injurious pests from once securing a foothold in our orchards.

#### Peach Leaf Curl

The peach leaf curl is practically our only well distributed, serious plant disease of the peach, and while its attacks are more serious on some varieties than others, yet it works severe injury to all sorts. This disease is too common to need description and may be readily kept under control by a thorough spraying in February or March with a standard solution of bordeaux or sulphur-lime wash and salt. Spraying done earlier than this seems to have been more or less valueless.

#### Winter or California Blight

The winter or California blight is a comparatively new disease in our state, but very common and troublesome in some parts of California. It is a peculiar disease affecting the buds and twigs of the fruiting wood, causing them to gumose spot and finally die. The fruit is frequently injured in the same way, although as a rule not so seriously as the buds and branches. The California station has done some fine work upon this disease and now are able to control it by one good spraying of bordeaux mixture applied during the months of November and December. Later sprayings were found to be ineffectual. Studies of the life history of the disease showed that it became active during the latter part of January or early in February and did most of the damage soon after that time.

#### The Peach Worm

The peach worm is undoubtedly the worst pest the peach grower has to contend with at the present time, since he not only works on the twigs, but also injures large quantities of fruit. Several experiment stations have worked upon

the life history of this insect and studied methods of combatting him, and practically all agree now that a good thorough spraying with lime-sulphur or kerosene emulsion, applied early in spring or just as the buds are beginning to burst, is most effective.

#### The Peach Tree Borer

The peach tree borer is another troublesome insect that we must be constantly watching for in order to prevent him from getting a foothold in our orchards. The best remedy that we can apply to him is to dig out the worms both fall and spring and either keep the trunk well banked with earth during the growing season or whitewashed with a thin coat of cement, which prevents the young from gaining access to the tree.

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**W**HAT the Lewis and Clark Fair did for Oregon and its sister states in making known to the world its resources and products will have its counterpart next year in the Alaska-Yukon Exposition at Seattle. There is probably no bit of soil that flies the American flag that has more of interest to the American people than this frozen country of the North. Featured in books and newspapers, its life and wealth have whetted the appetite of the curious who will undoubtedly go far to become more intimately acquainted with its products.

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**I**N pruning currant bushes the same good judgment must be used that is used in trimming other shrubs and trees. Avoid a clustered condition of weak shoots, and bear in mind that the best and largest fruit is borne upon the most matured and best developed shoots of the last season's growth. Pruning should be done early in the winter, but if neglected then, do it during some open spell in the winter, as the leaves come so early in the spring that there is hardly time to do it then without doing serious damage to the new growth.

## LAND OF BIG, RED APPLES

WE ALWAYS HAVE SOME CHOICE TRACTS TO OFFER

At popular prices and sell them strictly on their merits. Years of study given to Hood River and its products. Can sell you intelligently. Call on or address

**GEO. D. CULBERTSON & CO.**

Leading Land Agents Hood River, Oregon

## Underwood and Little White Salmon Choice Fruit Land for Sale

I have a number of choice places for sale, improved and unimproved. Some with good heavy timber, ranging in price from \$18.00 to \$100.00 per acre. I make a specialty of small tracts

**F. W. DEHART**

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## All Sunshine and Dollars

No mud nor snow. Three hundred and sixty-two feet altitude. Five hundred dollars monthly for life by owning a forty acre Kennewick-Finley fruit ranch. Write for 1908 price list of three thousand acres at seventy-five dollars. Concrete building and business for sale right

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KENNEWICK, WASHINGTON

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**APPLE LAND**

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HOOD RIVER, OREGON



## CHERRY ORCHARDS CLOSE TO SPOKANE, WASHINGTON

Will be more profitable, according to experienced fruit men, than the famous orange groves of California. The choicest varieties of cherries, apples and pears, the three most profitable fruits grown in the Northwest, reach perfection in the irrigated orchards of the Spokane country. We are handling irrigated fruit land within six miles of the center of town, with every city convenience. Five and ten-acre tracts. Prices are low and terms exceptionally easy. We plant any variety of fruit trees and take care of them one year free of charge if desired. We handle irrigated land exclusively and only the best of that. Spokane is the biggest and most rapidly growing city in Eastern Washington and Idaho, and irrigated orchard land so close to the city will be immensely valuable.

Write us for full information.

**NEELY & YOUNG, INC.** Club Building, SPOKANE, WASH.

## APPLE LAND

Near Goldendale, Washington. A newly developing fruit district on the Portland and Seattle Railroad, adjacent to Hood River and The Dalles, Oregon, with the same soil as in the famous Yakima Valley, Washington. Fruit land here equally as good as that in any of the above districts at a much lower price. Unparalleled opportunities for investments. Correspondence solicited

**E. H. LEE**, Goldendale, Wash.

# Okanogan NURSERIES

We have not another fruit tree to sell this season. We have however, a fine line of roses, shrubs, shade trees, berries and grapes

OMAK, WASHINGTON  
OKANOGAN COUNTY

## COMMERCIAL SPRAYING

Nets from \$5.00 to \$50.00 per day. We have a special plan for assisting one reliable man in each county to build up a profitable business

Write for details of our plan, stating your experience and naming two references

American Horticultural  
Distributing Co.

MARTINSBURG, WEST VIRGINIA

## ALL KINDS OF SEEDS

*Best of Quality*

McREYNOLDS & Co.

HOOD RIVER, OREGON

## GENERAL NURSERY STOCK

SOUTHERN OREGON  
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OAKLAND, OREGON

### True to Name Nursery Offers to Planters

For fall, 1908, a choice stock of apple, cherry, pear and peach, including all the leading varieties adapted to this locality, with special reference to Yellow Newtown and Spitzenberg Apples, Lambert, Bing and Royal Ann Cherries, Buerre D'Anjou and Comice Pears, Foster, Elberta, Salway, Early and Late Crawford Peaches. All buds and scions selected from the best bearing orchards in Hood River. Price list on application

H. S. GALLIGAN

Phone Home 2002K Hood River, Oregon

## THE PRUNING OF AN OLD NEGLECTED ORCHARD

Often the question is asked, "How should I prune an old and neglected orchard?" The answer will be: "It depends largely upon circumstances." We must consider such points as, How badly has the orchard been neglected? How closely are the trees planted? and, do you desire it for a commercial or a home orchard?

Let us take, for example, an orchard that has not been pruned for many years. The trees have been closely planted, so that they are badly crowded, and have become rather high headed, and what pruning has been done in the past has consisted chiefly of "trimming up." Many of the trees are unsound. As a commercial orchard it is hardly worth considering, even after being pruned, although there are many orchards that have not reached quite as bad a state of neglect that could be easily put into good condition. The chances are, however, that there are many varieties in this orchard, and it is to serve as a home orchard. Otherwise we should graft it over.

The first thing to do is to cut out some of the trees, so as to give them a chance for lateral development, removing, as fast as possible, the poorest and least desirable trees. The pruning of the remaining trees can be done in one of two ways. The first method is the one more commonly resorted to. It consists of pruning the tree very severely, cutting away the larger part of the top; dehorning it, so to speak. The second method consists of moderate pruning, and a period of several seasons is allowed in which to bring the tree to the desired condition. The first method is used a good deal on old peach and sometimes on old cherry trees, to rejuvenate them, building practically a new top on the tree, but I should not ordinarily recommend it for apples, for heavy top pruning means a heavy new growth, and the first you know you have a tree consisting of a few old stubs and a mass of water sprouts. In the contest that follows the tree generally wins the victory and a few seasons finds it practically abandoned and in worse shape than ever. The more heavily the top of the tree is pruned, the heavier must the succeeding pruning be. Too many orchards, both old and young, are pruned by this spasmodic system. The skillful pruner is the man who prunes annually and moderately, watching his trees during the growing season to check undesirable shoots. In our second method of pruning we start by first removing all dead and badly diseased branches. Follow this by thinning out branches that cross each other, always deciding which is the less desirable, and then thin out some of the long, spindling, thin growth, which will never develop good lateral spurs. The chances are that you have now pruned enough for the first season. The second season some additional thinning out of branches will be necessary, also some moderate heading-in.

In seeking to have the tree become well balanced often a mistake is made—the weak growth is headed back severely, the pruner thinking that by this method he will strengthen it. Not so; for the stronger will sap the weaker all the more. Head back the stronger and this will strengthen the weaker and the lateral growth. If the heading back is done severely, however, a water-sprout growth will develop. Be sure to check

this when it first appears by cutting it out. Occasionally some of these water sprouts that develop along the sides of the branches can be allowed to remain, as by heading back they will in time develop into fruit-bearing branches. If the tree is having good care it will now begin to spread, and the pruning in the future will consist chiefly in thinning out when inside growth becomes heavy.

There are many orchards in the state from ten to forty years of age that could be treated as above described and be made into good commercial orchards, but it is hard to get the grower to prune moderately. He persists in pruning heavily and soon gives up in despair. Often heavy pruning is accompanied by strong stimulation by the addition of fertilizers or stable compost. The resulting growth is still more vigorous. There is a natural equilibrium between the roots and the top of the tree, and whenever heavy pruning is resorted to the tree always strives to restore this equilibrium.

Some men prune wisely as regards what branches they remove and the extent of the pruning, but are careless in the methods they use. All branches should be removed as near the main branch or body of the tree as possible. If large branches are removed, make a cut on the under side first, so that when the branch falls it will not injure the tree by stripping away large amounts of wood and bark. Make the cuts vertically, so they will throw off the water.

In heading-in never leave stubs, but always cut back to a fork, and make a clean, smooth wound. This means that you must use a sharp saw or pruning shears and not an ax. Paint over the large wounds with thick paint, the thicker the better. Old paint skins are excellent. Thick tar is also good. These preparations are antiseptic, as well as preventive of decay.

It is well to follow the pruning described by a good application of lime and sulphur spray. It will help soften the bark, clean off moss and scale, and improve the appearance of the trees. If pruning has been well done, the trees can be stimulated by fertilizers or stable composts. Especially so if they have been in sod but are to be kept intensively cultivated in the future, as plowing will destroy a certain amount of the feeding roots near the surface. There is, therefore, not the danger of over-stimulation that would follow very heavy pruning and heavy fertilizing without plowing. Some of the old orchards are so far gone that they must be soon destroyed, while others could be improved by grafting over; but these are separate topics in themselves.



Yakima, Washington, Horticultural Union, which had a most successful season last year, recently met and elected all of the old directors. The meeting was largely attended, 1,503 shares being represented, and E. E. Samson, the Association manager, gave an interesting talk on the business of the Union during the past year. He asked the directors to consider the proposition of taking fruit for sale from growers outside of the organization, as it could be handled without extra expense and do away with competition. A resolution was also passed commanding the management and the directors for their efficiency in managing the Union.

## Rockford Fruit Growers' Association

Shippers of fruits grown without irrigation and therefore having the finest flavor and keeping qualities. We guarantee our pack and market nothing but first-class products in every particular. Write us now for future delivery. Address Rockford Fruit Growers' Association, Rockford, Washington.

420 Acres Devoted to Nursery Purposes

## THE WOODBURN NURSERIES

Established 1863 by J. S. Settlemier

Grower of Choice  
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WOODBURN, OREGON

## Cupid Flour

Has same standing in the Flour Trade that Hood River Apples have in the Fruit Trade. Made by

HOOD RIVER MILLING CO.

## SOUTHERN OREGON FRUIT LAND

Two hundred acres second bench, partly cut over timber land, deep red soil, lays well, on best road in county; seven miles from Grants Pass, quarter mile from school; adapted to the raising of apples, pears, peaches and grapes; R. F. D. and rural telephone. Sold in any amount from ten acres up. \$32.50 per acre.

JOHN H. ROBINSON  
Route 2, GRANTS PASS, OREGON

## HILL MILITARY ACADEMY

A BOARDING and Day School for Boys Manual Training, Military Discipline, College Preparation. Boys of any age admitted at any time.

WRITE FOR  
ILLUSTRATED  
CATALOGUE

DR. J. W. HILL  
PROPRIETOR AND PRINCIPAL  
PORTLAND, OREGON

## BETTER FRUIT

### LYLE, WASHINGTON, AS A GROWING DISTRICT

Continued from page 15

ing to be seven and a half inches long and twelve inches in circumference.

Dr. Hensel, of California, said a few years ago that he never saw finer grapes in the famous vineyards of his state than he saw growing on the Balfour farm adjoining the town of Lyle.

Our apples, for size, flavor, color and keeping qualities, can be surpassed by none. Many of our farmers have apples until apples come again. Several Hood River apple growers have said there was no doubt but that we could raise as fine fruit as they could. Many thousands of dollars are being spent this year to clean up land and set it to orchard. Tomatoes, peanuts and melons are also profitable crops.

With one of the finest constructed new railroads in America at our doors, and the mighty Columbia at our feet, our markets are the markets of the whole world, and we have everything but people in numbers to make it a most ideal country community.

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THE opening of the fine and commodious new home of the Portland Commercial Club, which took place Friday, June 12, marks an epoch not only in the progress of the city, but of the state as well. It is a monument to the newer life and enterprise of the commonwealth of Oregon as a whole and one which it can well be proud of. Without the support of the people of the state at large Portland's business men could not have built this elegant new home, and many of them are generous enough to say so. To the officers of the enterprising organization who planned this magnificent structure the citizens of Portland and other sections of the state owe a debt of gratitude in providing it with a home for its business and social life that reflects credit on both them and the state as well.

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### THE WEED PROBLEM SOLVED

The Dalles, Oregon, March 7, 1906.  
Mr. F. S. Gunning,

The Dalles, Oregon:

My Dear Sir: Referring to the "harrow-tooth weeder" which I bought from you last year, I wish to say that I have personally used several kinds of weeders and have found many of them good; but without qualification I will say that I never used, nor saw used, any sort of machine that in any way compared with this machine. It is in a class all by itself, and any farmer who buys one of these machines, and uses it judiciously, has solved the weed problem. In matters of cost, draft and efficiency I have never seen its equal. Every farmer should have one. Very truly yours,

LEON W. CURTISS.

◊ ◊ ◊

R. M. KELLOGG COMPANY

THREE RIVERS, MICHIGAN, January 23, 1908.  
Mr. E. H. Shepard, Publisher "Better Fruit,"  
Hood River, Oregon—Dear Mr. Shepard: We cannot refrain from congratulating you upon your very beautiful issue for January, and we wish especially to thank you for the fine manner in which you brought out our half page ad. As lovers of good typography we thoroughly enjoy looking over your paper. There are few publications in this country that get up their advertising matter and letter press stuff in so good shape as do you, either from the typographical or the literary point of view. The illustrations in your January number are particularly apposite and very beautifully brought out. With best wishes for a prosperous year, we remain, as ever, very truly yours,

R. M. KELLOGG Co.

Travelers' Headquarters

## Obarr Hotel

P. S. PLUMMER, PROPRIETOR

STRICTLY  
FIRST-CLASS FAMILY  
HOTEL

One Block from O. R. & N. Depot  
East Second St., THE DALLES, OREGON

## Claud S. Knight

DEALER IN

Paints, Oils, Glass, Varnish,  
Roofing, Wall Paper, Doors  
and Windows. Agent for  
SHERWIN-WILLIAMS PAINTS

One Block East of Postoffice  
THE DALLES, OREGON

## J. H. Worsley

Wholesale and Retail  
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### Groceries and Fruits

THE DALLES  
OREGON

C. W. Barzee

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## The Dalles Saddlery Company

Manufacturers and Dealers in

Stock Saddles, Harness, Etc.

Give us a trial  
Outside Business promptly attended to

718 E. Second St., The Dalles, Oregon  
[Opposite Moody Warehouse]

## R. H. Darnielle & Co.

PROPRIETORS EAST HILL STORE

DEALERS IN  
GROCERIES, HAY, GRAIN  
AND FEED

922 Elm and G Streets

THE DALLES, OREGON

**BURBANK & AMOS**  
REAL ESTATE  
Irrigated Fruit Lands in the Famous Vale of Cashmere  
The Garden Spot of Washington  
**CASHMERE, WASHINGTON**

## S. E. Bartmess

UNDERTAKER AND  
LICENSED EMBALMER  
For Oregon and Washington

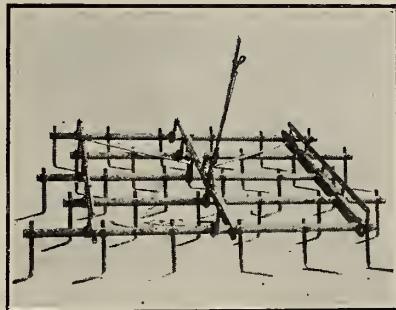
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Hood River, Oregon

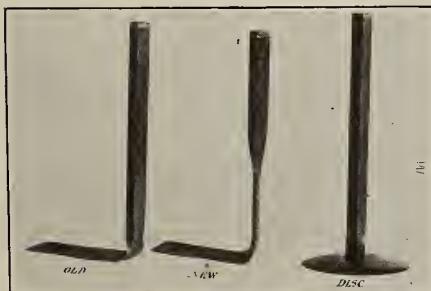
## Stephens & Hause

**FRUIT LAND**  
IN SMALL AND LARGE TRACTS  
near Goldendale, Washington, in  
one of the best newly developed  
fruit belts on the Pacific Coast. We  
also have some choice wheat farms,  
meadow land and stock ranches for  
sale. *For information and description write*  
**STEPHENS & HAUSE**  
Goldendale, Klickitat County, Washington

GUNNING'S  
**Harrow-Tooth Weeder**  
will do more and better work in small  
weeds and loose ground than any other  
weeder made, and do it for less expense.



Manufactured by F. S. Gunning, The  
Dalles, Oregon



The different teeth used in Gunning's  
Harrow-Tooth Weeder. They are used  
in any steel-frame lever harrow that uses  
a clamp to hold the teeth.

## PRIIZES GIVEN BY THE DALLES CHERRY FAIR

THE midsummer meeting of the State Horticultural Society and Cherry Fair will be held at The Dalles, Oregon, on June 30, July 1 and 2, 1908. The following is a list of the prizes offered by The Dalles business men to exhibitors:

### ONE-BOX EXHIBIT

Royal Ann, 10-pound box—	
First prize . . . . .	Cup, value \$10.00
Second prize . . . . .	Cash, value 3.00
Third prize . . . . .	Cash, value 2.00

Bing, 10-pound box—	
First prize . . . . .	Cup, value 10.00
Second prize . . . . .	Cash, value 3.00
Third prize . . . . .	Cash, value 2.00

Lambert, 10-pound box—	
First prize . . . . .	Cup, value 10.00
Second prize . . . . .	Cash, value 3.00
Third prize . . . . .	Cash, value 2.00

Black Republican, 10-pound box—	
First prize . . . . .	Cup, value 10.00
Second prize . . . . .	Cash, value 3.00
Third prize . . . . .	Cash, value 2.00

Royal Anne, five 10-pound boxes—	
First prize . . . . .	Cup, value \$15.00
Second prize . . . . .	Cash, value 5.00
Third prize . . . . .	Cash, value 3.00

Bing, five 10-pound boxes—	
First prize . . . . .	Cup, value 15.00
Second prize . . . . .	Cash, value 5.00
Third prize . . . . .	Cash, value 3.00

### FIVE-BOX EXHIBIT

Royal Anne, five 10-pound boxes—	
First prize . . . . .	Cup, value \$15.00
Second prize . . . . .	Cash, value 5.00
Third prize . . . . .	Cash, value 3.00

Bing, five 10-pound boxes—	
First prize . . . . .	Cup, value 15.00
Second prize . . . . .	Cash, value 5.00
Third prize . . . . .	Cash, value 3.00

### GENERAL EXHIBIT

Of fifteen or more 10-pound boxes, not less than three varieties

First prize . . . . .	Cash, \$25.00
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Second prize . . . . .	Cash, 15.00
------------------------	-------------

Third prize . . . . .	Cash, 10.00
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All fruit entered for premium must be grown by exhibitor.

An attractive program consisting of speeches and vocal and instrumental music has also been arranged.

◆ ◆ ◆

A REPORT from the La Grande Star says that some of the fruit growers' unions at Colorado have contracted for box shooks with the Grand Ronde Lumber Company of Perry. It is further stated that this contract calls for 250,000 boxes. The Colorado sections making this contract expect to ship 1250 carloads the coming season.

## REPORT OF UTAH BOARD OF HORTICULTURE

IN the month of April great activity prevailed in the horticultural line. Seventy-four thousand two hundred and forty-six trees were fumigated and inspected for planting. Besides some 300,000 that were already fumigated, inspected and stored away in frost-proof houses or heeled in the ground for future delivery. Fifty-five boxes and bundles, containing about 15,700 trees, were imported. Two thousand nine hundred and seventy-four were condemned and burned, being diseased. About fifteen per cent of the imported and about five per cent of the home-grown trees have been found diseased this year and the same have been burned.

The deputy inspectors, except one, who had nursery work as well as orchard work to attend to, have been on half time this month, making a total of eighty-seven and one-half days' work, and have filed the following report:

Oorchards cleaned this spring, 559; orchards pruned, 468; orchards winter

sprayed, 60; old trees cut down, 860; pear trees cut out for blight, 3,220; young trees planted, 23,513; orchards visited, 646. In one district southwest of Jordan six large California spray pumps, costing over \$60 apiece, have been bought and started to work, and many farmers intend to take hold of fruit raising in a manner to produce results. Our worst plague in the older settled districts is the old pest-breeding orchards, good for nothing and still not bad enough to be lawfully condemned.

I take pleasure in submitting the above report for the month of April, 1908.

JOHN P. SORENSEN,  
Horticultural Inspector.

◆ ◆ ◆

RESHAM, Oregon, reports indicate a fine fruit crop, especially Bartlett pears, which have set very heavy. Cherries, prunes and plums are also expected to do exceedingly well, and apples promise a very large crop.

## CARING FOR A SMALL PATCH OF BLACKBERRIES

A WRITER in Farmers' Home Journal gives very plain and concise directions for setting and caring for a patch of blackberries, and no one with a patch of ground should be without this healthful and delicious fruit, which can be put to so many uses and which is nearly always sure to make a crop.

The essential point in growing blackberries successfully is a moist soil, not one in which water will stand, but one rich enough in humus to hold sufficient moisture to carry the plant through the growing season. The writer quoted, says: It is usually best to plant the blackberry bushes in the fall, setting the smaller growing kinds four by seven feet apart, and the larger varieties six by eight feet. Thorough cultivation throughout the season will help in a material degree to hold the moisture necessary to perfect a good crop. The soil should be cultivated very shallow, so as not to disturb the roots. Breaking the roots

starts a large number of suckers, which have to be cut out and destroyed.

Blackberries, like dewberries and raspberries, bear but one crop on the cane. That is, canes which spring up one year bear the next. From three to six canes are sufficient to be kept in each hill. The superfluous ones should be thinned out as soon as they start from the ground. The old canes should be cut off soon after fruiting and burned. The new shoots should be pinched back at the height of two or three feet if the plants are to support themselves. If they are to be fastened to wires, the canes may be allowed to grow through the season and be cut back when tied to the wires in the winter or early spring.

Blackberry plants are sometimes left down during the winter in very cold climates, the tops being bent down and held to the ground by earth or sods thrown upon them.

◆ ◆ ◆

WOODBURN, Oregon, is putting in a \$11,000 cannery. This looks like business.

# BETTER FRUIT

HOOD RIVER, OREGON

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF  
THE NORTHWEST FRUIT GROWERS' ASSOCIATION

A MONTHLY ILLUSTRATED MAGAZINE  
PUBLISHED IN THE INTEREST OF UP-TO-DATE  
FRUIT GROWING AND MARKETING

ALL COMMUNICATIONS SHOULD BE ADDRESSED AND  
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BETTER FRUIT PUBLISHING COMPANY

E. H. SHEPARD  
EDITOR AND PUBLISHER

W. H. WALTON            CHRIS GREISEN  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR        SOLICITOR

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE \$1.00 PER YEAR  
IN ADVANCE IN UNITED STATES AND CANADA  
FOREIGN SUBSCRIPTIONS, Including Postage, \$1.50  
ADVERTISING RATES ON APPLICATION

Entered as second-class matter December 27, 1906,  
at the postoffice at Hood River, Oregon,  
under act of Congress of March 3, 1879

LIKE irrigation, spraying or any other feature of the orchard industry, that of cover crops is acknowledged by all thinking orchardists to be an important one. In sections that have been under cultivation for a long period they are considered a prime necessity to maintain the proper amount of humus, nitrogen and other elements in the soil in order to get the best results. In the Northwest it has not as yet been deemed necessary to resort very much to the cover crop system, owing to the comparatively short time under which the rich soil in this section has been under cultivation. It is beginning, however, to be recognized that this natural system for restoring to the soil what it loses by clean cultivation is beneficial if not actually necessary as yet, and there is no doubt that it will be largely resorted to in the near future. On another page we publish a thoroughly technical and practical article on this phase of orcharding, which tells not only why the cover crop is necessary, but also what to use for this purpose in the various districts; how to plant it, the cost per acre, and the results that may be expected. We believe that it will repay any orchardist many times over to read this article carefully, as it contains much of practical value.

◆ ◆ ◆

WE take pleasure in recommending to our readers a little volume on "New Raspberry and Blackberry Culture," from the pen of J. F. Littooy, of Mountain Home, Idaho, which we believe will prove of much value to those who are engaged in the growing of small fruits. The volume treats in a short, concise way all the phases of small fruit growing, and can be used as a handbook, being convenient in form and size. For several years Mr. Littooy was a resident of the Puyallup Valley berry growing section, and made berry growing the subject of much study. The book retails for twenty-five cents and can be ordered direct from Mr. Littooy at his address at Mountain Home, Idaho.

◆ ◆ ◆

PEACH growing is each year engaging more of the attention of the North western fruit grower. As a commercial factor in the big markets of the East, peaches from this section have not as yet cut much of a figure. There is no reason why they should not do so in the future, but at present the output is limited. We have seen peaches grown

# BETTER FRUIT

in all parts of the United States, but never any finer ones than those produced in various sections of Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Utah. We never saw any like them in the big peach markets of the East for size, color or flavor, and believe that if they could be introduced there in car lots their success would be equal to that of the fancy Western box apple. To the fruit epicure price counts very little when it comes to peaches or any other fruit. For many years the markets on the Atlantic seaboard have been supplied with peaches from Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and some of the Southern states. These sell as low as 35 and 50 cents per basket and, compared to the peaches of the Northwest, are as the blossom of the mustard plant to the full-blown rose. Grown in quantities and shipped under refrigeration, the unsurpassed peaches from the Northwest would undoubtedly bring fabulous prices in Eastern markets.

◆ ◆ ◆

TO compute the amount annually invested in fruit land in the Northwest would be difficult. It must, however, reach several millions of dollars, and is each year being increased. In

Hood River, June 15, 1903.  
Better Fruit Publishing Company,  
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Wishing you the continued success that your efforts merit, we are,

Very respectfully yours,  
MACRAE & ANGUS.  
By F. W. Angus.

fact, the fruit industry is at present leading all others in the matter of development, and is rapidly taking its place as one of the greatest and most profitable resources of this rich country. It is doing more to populate the interior districts than any other industry, owing to the small acreage necessary to provide an income. It is not only bringing the investor but also the business man, the mechanic and the laborer. All this means wealth, progress and more rapid development. The fact, also, that those who are engaging in the business are from the successful walks of business and professional life is doing not a little to bring this about and is fast helping to build up the country.

◆ ◆ ◆

## BETTER FRUIT

The valley whitens with its precious wealth  
Of blossom-laden trees; the waiting earth  
Is turned and trained to do its needed work  
And yield rich nourishment. Each tiny tree  
Receives its tender care; all thought and aim  
Is centered on the coming fruit, and thus  
Is every day perfection drawing near,  
And just reward for honest labor wrought.

So in each life, we watch the slender trees  
Of our own sowing, yield their fruit of deeds;  
And some there are which prove no gain to bring  
Nor honor to our days; they show a lack  
Of loving flavor, and bear blemishes  
God never meant should be. Oh, careless man!  
Watch close their growing! Guard and love them  
all;  
And let each life-tree bear its better fruit!

—Marion Cook.

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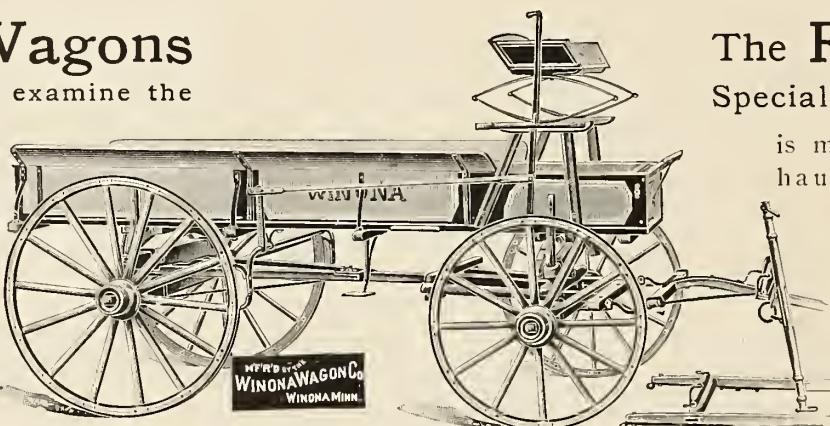
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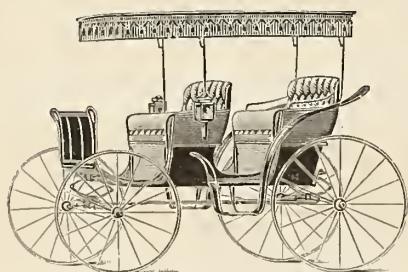
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for a wagon that will stand more hard use than any other wagon made



## The Rushford Special Fruit Wagon

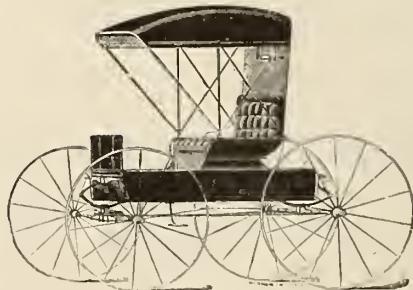
is made especially for hauling fruit; made only with steel skeins, any gear, brake and crank, bolster springs. Sold either with pole or shafts.



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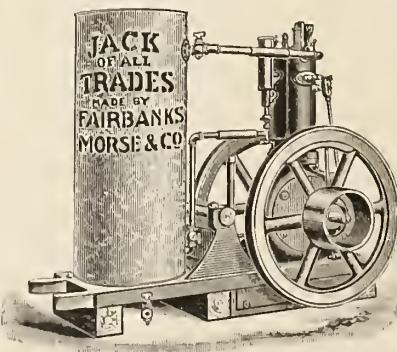
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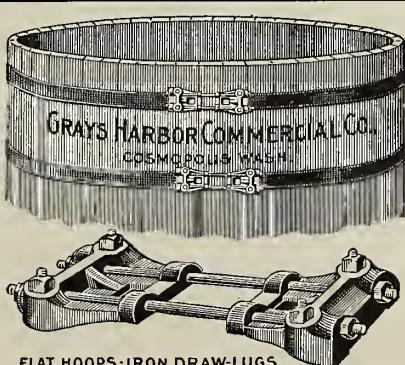
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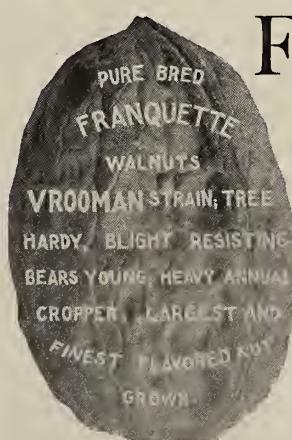
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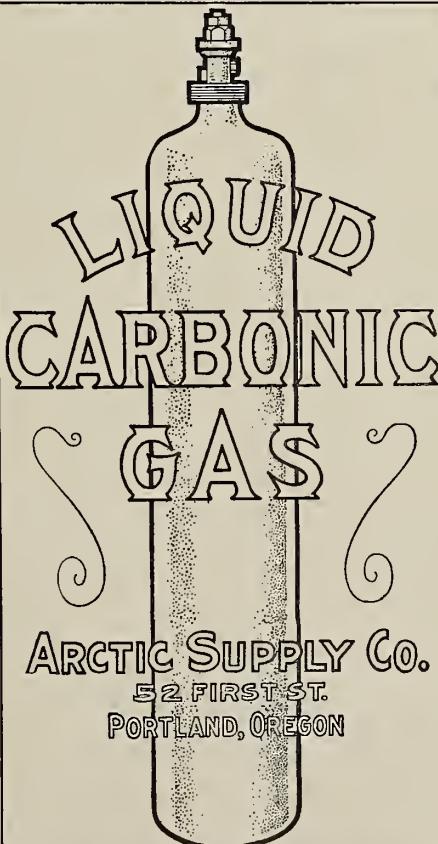
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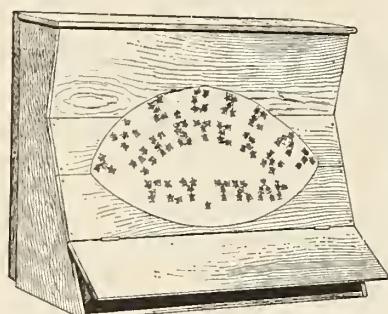
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eggs and all kinds of fruit and vegetables

# Great Southern Railroad Company



TRAVERSING the rich and fertile fruit and grain lands of Eight Mile Valley, Fifteen Mile Valley, Juniper Flats and Tygh Valley; tapping the extensive timber belts along the Eastern slopes of the Cascade Mountains adjacent to and surrounding the grand, towering Mount Hood